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Romania

Bucharest radio reports that Mr. Constantin Ene, state secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has returned from his four-way meeting in Chisinau, which was attended by representatives from Romania, Moldova, Ukraine, and the Russian Federation. During an interview with Romanian radio, Mr. Ene said, "During the meeting, ways and means were examined through which calm could be returned to the Republic of Moldova.... and this issue should continue to be approached exclusively from a political angle."

Bulgaria

BTA reports that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement on behalf of the Bulgarian Government that said: "The Bulgarian public is seriously alarmed and concerned over developments in the Dniester region. An escalation of tensions and hostilities in the last couple of days have resulted in substantial damage to towns and villages inhabited by compact Bulgarian population. There are casualties."

Albania

ATA reports that the Albanian Foreign Ministry sent a note to the Yugoslav Embassy in reference to a "barbarous act" perpetrated by the Serb border forces. The Ministry claims an Albanian national was "cruelly beaten," "tortured," and "criminally killed" by the border forces. The Albanian Foreign Ministry added that they "ask the competent Yugolsav organs to punish the authors of these crimes, which run counter to the CSCE documents, Helsinki Act, and the general statement on human rights."

Yugoslavia

International—According to TANJUG, Cedric Thornberry, head of the civilian sector of the United Nations peace mission in Yugoslavia, assessed the accusations that the UNPROFOR is to blame for tragic events in Krajina as "irresponsible." He added that "those really looking after innocent victims of conflicts should address their pleas to those who unleashed the whip of war and who could bring peace to the people in regions which have already suffered enough."

Bosnia-Hercegovina

TANJUG reports that the Presidency decided that the Republic will join the UN sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. It said it adopted a "statutory decree on accepting the May 30 United Nations Security Council Resolution 757, severing all cooperation with the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro."

Foreign Ministry Protests Killing on FRY Border

AU2306200792 Tirana ATA in English 1801 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Tirana, June 23 (ATA)—On June 23, 1992, the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Albania sent a note of protest to the Yugoslav Embassy in regard to a barbarous act perpetrated by the Serb border forces recently.

The note says that on June 17, 1992, at 1600 in the region of C-10/11 Pyramid, in Frongaj-Tropoje border point sector, about 300 metres inside the Yugoslav territory, there was criminally killed by the Serb border forces the Albanian national Rexhe Isuf Tabaku, aged 26, from Vicidol village, Tropoje District.

The commissions of the two sides met in Qafe Prush and jumped at the conclusion that the aforesaid citizen has been cruelly beaten and tortured. After this, being not satisfied with what they did, the Serb border forces fired a volley of shots. It is also proven that the victim had no kind of weapon and other defence means.

These acts perpetrated by the Serb military forces are part of those criminal acts perpetrated against Albanian nationals. They flagrantly run counter to the spirit of the agreement "On the Measures To Prevent and Settle Incidents in the Albanian-Yugoslav State Border" and as until now, are further stirring up tension in the borders of our two countries. Such crimes which assume a special meaning if we bear in mind constant provocations against the Albanian population in Kosovo, warn of new dangers not only to Kosovo and Albania, but also to peace and security in the region.

These unscrupulous crimes have aroused the indignation of the whole Albanian people. The Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Albania, just as before, asks from the competent Yugoslav organs to punish the authors of these crimes, which run counter to the CSCE documents, Helsinki Act and the general statement on human rights. As until now, the Albanian party will raise its voice of protest in different international organisms against these provocative acts.

Minister Ruli, EBRD Officials Discuss Cooperation

AU2306142792 Tirana ATA in English 0907 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Tirana, June 23 (ATA)—A delegation of the directors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development arrived in our country on June 22. The delegation is made up of directors for various European countries. The delegation will meet and conduct talks with personalities and heads of the major institutions on problems of broadening and materialising the relations between Albania and the World Bank.

The Minister of Economy and Finances Genc Ruli received the delegation headed by Von Bismark, higher administrator in the European Bank and Lableine, secretary general. Minister Genc Ruli acquainted the delegation members with some problems the government is faced with at present and its efforts to overcome the difficulties while applying the economic reform. Therefore the all round aid by the European Bank becomes increasingly necessary.

Further on the Minister Ruli dwelt on the procedure of the process of privatisation in agriculture, trade, transport, and public services. We demand, he said, financial aid to transform our military and civil industry.

During the talks they treated of also problems of a speedier activity on the part of the European Bank in Albania.

On June 23, the delegation will continue meetings in other institutions.

Council of Ministers To Accelerate Reform

AU2306143092 Tirana ATA in English 0813 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Tirana, June 23 (ATA)—Under the chairmanship of the Premier Aleksander Meksi, the meeting of the Council of Ministers was held on June 22. It examined and adopted a package of decisions which have to do with the beginning of the economic reform and open the way to relations of cooperation with the International Monetary Fund, with the World Bank, and the European Community.

The decision for the change of tariffs of postal services and telecommunication increases these tariffs for the people twice, whereas for other consumers 3.5 times (postal tariffs) and 1.5 times (tariffs of telecommunication). According to the decision for the change of the retail sale of electric energy, this price for non-family consumers increases from 0.6 to 1.2 leks per kilowatt-hour. The price of electric energy for the people remains unchanged.

The prices of the retail sale of fuel, lubricant oils, and other oil by products change as well. The price of kerosene for the people does not change too.

The decision for the beginning of some measures of the program of the economic reform has to do with two very important steps of the economic reform: liberalisation of the monetary and currency policy and that of foreign trade. According to this decision, the percentages of the interest rates of bank deposits and credits, in accordance with inflation and demands of the market, will be applied in a free system of the foreign currency exchange according to the daily quotas of the currency market. The Bank of Albania directs this currency policy.

This decision legalizes also the liberalization of the regime of foreign trade. According to it, the licences and quantity controls for most of the goods for export are lifted. Exception are only those food articles included in the group of food aid from abroad and some articles of a

special importance. The limitations and licences of import are also lifted, except for the commodities which have to do with the interests of the country's security and the protection of environment. The monopoly of all the state organisms on foreign trade is removed.

These decisions enter into force on July 1, 1992.

In continuation the government approved the draft law on some changes to the Law on Sanctioning and Defending the Private Property, Free Initiative, Private Activities, and Privatisation. Meanwhile the changes envisaged by the draft law aim at solving some problems emerging from the hitherto experience and at stimulating the process of privatisation and investments. The fundamental change proposed has to do with the granting of the ground for constructions to the foreign and local physical and juridical persons. The draft law envisages that the local physical and juridical persons have the right to resell the ground. For the foreign physical and juridical persons, the ground for constructions will be rented for a 99 year schedule, from the 49 years schedule it has been before. The selling of the land for constructions for foreign physical and juridical persons will begin with the completion of the respective legislation on the selling procedures.

In continuation, the government approved the decision on the criteria of assessing the state property to be made private and of the rent level for objects granted for use to the third parties. The selling of the state property will be made through auction.

Likewise this meeting approved also some other decisions.

Government, Strike Committee Discuss Demands

AU2406075392 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1730 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The Defense Ministry spokesman reports that on 18 June Defense Minister Safet Zhulali received representatives of the Polican Trade Union Federation, its Tirana officials, and the Strike Committee of the Polican workers, and discussed their demands for five hours. The minister considered their demands to be fair, and a consensus was reached to solve them.

The main demand was about employment. Views were exchanged and the ministry's efforts to solve the problem were pointed out. All the available foreign currency was placed at the enterprise's disposal for the purchase of raw materials, and additional funds were promised. It was agreed that on the following day defense Ministry specialists would be sent to study further measures with the management.

Other demands, such as the status of civilian workers in the defense industry and pensions according to work experience were considered to be fair in principle, but a procedure must be followed and they cannot be considered the basic demands of the strike.

Agreement was not reached on two demands because they are against the law: The first concerned the retention of 80-percent wage payments, and the second related to the workers' refusal to accept the director appointed two weeks ago. It was pointed out that these are illegal demands and have nothing to do with economic claims.

A working group visited Polican the next day, but the striking members of the federation prevented it from accomplishing its tasks, resorting to illegal behavior.

At 1700 on Monday [1500 GMT 21 Jun], Defense Minister Safet Zhulali once again invited for talks the Strike Committee, local and central Trade Union Federation representatives, officials of the Independent Trade Union, and the combine's director. To everybody's amazement, the representatives of the federation and the Strike Committee refused to sit down at the table with the representatives of the Independent Trade Unions and director of the combine, calling them illegitimate. The minister insisted that they all sit down and talk together because the combine belongs to all the workers, and cannot be divided into parts according to trade union affiliations. They refused and left, after exerting pressure for recognition of themselves and their further arbitrary behavior.

In the talks with representatives of the Independent Trade Unions and the combine's director, the latter welcomed the measures that the minister offered as solutions, and promised to end the strike, to resume normal work, and to win over as many workers as possible. The minister agreed with their suggestions and instructed the management to employ workers only on the basis of current needs, while the others should be treated like all other workers. The strikers' demand that government representatives be sent to discuss their remaining demands was also conceded.

The government team set off for Polican. The discussions did not devote much attention to the question of whether the strike is illegal or not, but rather on how to settle its fair demands as soon as possible. It was nevertheless regretfully pointed out that the demands also had a political hue, and that the repeated [words indistinct] of the well-known demands of the present opposition began to point their demands in an illegal direction. There were malicious and antidemocratic calls such as: We want democracy without the Democratic Party; Let us fight for our cause to the death; and malicious disinformation, such as: Let us march on Tirana. Those who inspired them will be brought to justice.

It was also stressed strongly that petitions in the form of ultimatums are unacceptable. The authors of such petitions will be punished under the law. Pressures for the retention of 80-percent wage payments and the appointment of directors at the base according to the line of the masses have now been given short shrift by the elections of 22 March and by legal changes. Those who retain such communist ideas would do well to realize that such times will not return.

The intolerance shown by the leaders of the federation in refusing to sit down at one table with representatives of the Independent Trade Unions is out of touch with reality, and inspires political forces that want instability.

The defense minister called on all the workers of the combine to be tolerant, conscientious, and cool-headed. Do not listen to hotheads who want political destabilization. Real problems will be solved according to our opportunities. [words indistinct]

We have also heard from Polican of the arrival of a government group in response to the demands of the workers. Despite all efforts to sit down at a table and to talk about the demands with the combine's management, the leaders of the Trade Union Federation refused and left, saying that their demands must be settled before they would talk. Intolerance and hotheadedness only delay the settlement of their demands. We once again call on the workers of this combine to persuade the federation leaders, because there is no chance of solving their demands without sitting down to talk about paths of solution.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on Dniester Region

AU2306204592 Sofia BTA in English 2010 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Bulgarian Government Declaration; place and date of issue not given]

[Text] Sofia, June 23 (BTA)—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs made the following declaration to BTA on behalf of the government:

The Bulgarian public is seriously alarmed and concerned over developments in the Dniester region. An escalation of tensions and hostilities in the last couple of days have resulted in substantial damage to towns and villages inhabited by compact Bulgarian population. There are casualties.

The ethnic Bulgarian population has never provided a reason for misunderstanding and controversy with the other ethnoses inhabiting the Republic of Moldova and has always sought to live in peace and understanding with them.

Manifesting its loyalty to the government, the Bulgarian population has every reason to expect an adequate reaction in defence of its security and human rights.

The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria believes that the escalation of the conflict is utmostly dangerous and calls insistently on the government of the Republic of Moldova to take all necessary measures for guaranteeing the security of the Bulgarian population, for preventing a further loss of innocent life, for ending the escalation of tensions and a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria calls on the governments of Romania, Russia and Ukraine, in their capacity as parties to the four-power negotiations, to assist energetically for a durable settlement of the conflict in keeping with the principles of the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, the Paris Charter for a New Europe and the other CSCE documents.

Neftokhim Workers Protest in Sofia Center

AU2306185992 Sofia BTA in English 1838 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Sofia, June 23 (BTA)—Seven buses carrying some 350 blue and white collar workers—members of the Petrochemical Workers' Union affiliated to the Podkrepa Labour Confederation at the Burgas-based Neftokhim Company, arrived in Sofia today. Apart from the silent protest in front of parliament building today, they are planning to stage a protest action tomorrow. Their further moves will depend on whether their demands will be met, said the president of the trade union Stoyan Gutov. He did not confirm earlier reports today that the petrochemical workers planned to occupy parliament building.

The petrochemical workers want a revocation of tax incentives for the cooperatives which under the effective Cooperatives Act are importing fuels without paying excise duties and thus provide unfair competition to the combined works. Besides, they oppose what they see as irregular filling stations deals made by the Petrol state-owned Company.

The petrochemical workers familiarized the Union of Democratic Forces MP's with their problems. Tomorrow they will request a meeting with Industry Minister Rumen Bikov and intend to stay in Sofia until their problems are solved.

At the same time, the Podkrepa National Trade Union continues the strike it started yesterday morning over the government's refusal to include representatives of the trade union in the National Council for Social Partnership. The stevedores in the Black Sea ports of Varna and Burgas are on a staggered strike. Even though there are as few as 180 strikers, they are in key positions and the industrial action blocks the operation of the two ports. The port of Varna authority filed a petition to the District Court, claiming that the strike is illegal because no specific trade union demands were raised. The employer says the strikers will have to pay the losses which, for the time being, are estimated at 1 million dollars daily.

The port workers in Ruse on the Danube, the Podkrepa Mariners Union and the Free Transport Trade Union have joined the strike and a number of Podkrepa-affiliated branch unions are expressing support.

Deputy Prime Minister Nikola Vasilev today did not turn up at the meeting with the Podkrepa National Trade Union and the trade union said the entire responsibility for the escalating transport strike will rest with him.

'Millions of Leva' in Losses by Varna Strike

AU2306152992 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1500 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The real strike organized by the Podkrepa National Trade Union in Varna-East and Varna-West Ports continues. The losses already are calculated at millions of leva. A legal procedure was initiated to establish the legality of the strike.

Some 65 sailors announced strike readiness in Burgas. Until 2 July their protest will be symbolic. Afterward they will announce a real strike.

The strike has not spread to the Stara Zagora railroad system.

Zhelev, Ganev To Sign Agreements in Turkey

AU2306160792 Sofia BTA in English 1542 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Sofia, June 23 (BTA)—Tomorrow President Zhelyu Zhelev is leaving for Istanbul at the head of a

delegation including Foreign Minister Stoyan Ganev and other senior officials, a declaration on Black Sea economic cooperation is to be signed there on June 25, Foreign Ministry's Spokeswoman Veneta Momcheva announced.

The document comprises the intent, the principles and guidelines of a future cooperation conducted on the basis of specific projects in different fields which will contribute to the all-European process and to the economic, technological and social progress of the participants.

Black Sea economic cooperation will be developed gradually by taking into account the specific economic conditions in the participating countries, especially the problems arising in connection with the transition to a market economy. It is expected to contribute to the attraction of foreign investment, to the building up of modern infrastructures and the efficient use of the countries' economic potentials, thus improving the political climate and strengthening stability.

Cooperation in trade, industry, informatics, environment, telecommunications, agriculture, transport, finance, standardization, tourism, the combat against drug trafficking and crime are of special importance for Bulgaria.

The visit to Istanbul will give President Zhelev and Foreign Minister Ganev the opportunity of holding a number of bilateral meetings.

Make Predeparture Comments

AU2406102192 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] On 24 June President Zhelyu Zhelev, Foreign Minister Stoyan Ganev, and other officials departed for Istanbul, where on 25 June a declaration on Black Sea economic cooperation will be signed.

Our reporter Rumyan Petrov was at the airport and he talked to Zhelyu Zhelev and Stoyan Ganev.

[Begin Petrov recording] Recently certain doubts have been expressed regarding Bulgaria's participation in this meeting. What are the main arguments that determined our decision to sign the declaration? [end recording]

[Begin Zhelev recording] Look, we are a Black Sea country and we cannot refrain from participating in regional cooperation. In addition, this cooperation does not prevent our aspiring for integration in the EC, a matter of priority importance for our country. Regional cooperation does not have the character of a community that could bind us in some kind of consensus or other commitments. We will participate in everything that is beneficial to Bulgaria. If something does not correspond to Bulgaria's interests, we will not participate. [end recording]

[Begin Petrov recording] Mr. Ganev, the goal of the meeting is well known. However, will you use the time in Istanbul for talks on certain disputed issues of bilateral relations? [end recording]

[Begin Ganev recording] I can tell you that this is one of the most important tasks for our delegation—to talk with leaders of states with which we have traditionally good relations, but with which we also have some problems that must be resolved. For example, this is the case with Greece. We attribute great importance to the meeting with Mr. Mitsotakis. The same applies to the Turkish leaders. I assume that we shall also meet the presidents of other states that take part in the meeting. [end recording]

Ministries Complete Treaty With Hungary

AU2306140992 Sofia BTA in English 2022 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Sofia, June 22 (BTA)—At the invitation of Deputy foreign minister of the Republic of Bulgaria Valentin Dobrev, a Hungarian delegation led by Ivan Baba, deputy state secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary, is on a visit to Sofia.

The two delegations are holding consultations on a wide range of issues concerning bilateral relations and the international situation and, more specifically, developments in the region, where the two countries are situated.

The sides noted with satisfaction that the work on the treaty outlining the fundamentals of bilateral relations has been completed on the ministerial level and it is ready for signing.

Tomorrow the sides will sign a protocol on cooperation between the Foreign Ministries of Bulgaria and Hungary.

Government of Slovak Republic Steps Down

LD2406090592 Prague CSTK in English 0841 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Bratislava June 24 (CSTK)—The Government of the Slovak Republic headed by Premier Jan Carnogursky resigned today.

The cabinet, composed mostly of members of the Civic Democratic Union (ODU) and the Christian Democratic Movement (KDH) had been in office in this form for 14 months. Slovak Premier Jan Carnogursky replaced his predecessor Vladimir Meciar April 24, 1991.

The outgoing Slovak Government consisted of 10 members of the ODS [Civic Democratic Party], four of the KDH, four of the SKDH, two of the DS and one of the MKDH. [passage omitted]

Gasparovic Elected Slovak Parliamentary Chairman

LD2306132392 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Slovak 1200 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Jan Balascak reports from the first, constituent meeting of the Slovak National Council [SNC]:

The SNC deputies elected the chairman of the Slovak Parliament at its constituent meeting today. Ivan Gasparovic, representative of the victorious Movement for Democratic Slovakia [HZDS], became the chairman. In a secret ballot, 124 deputies voted for the new chairman, and 24 deputies against.

The election of the chairman was preceded by a presentation by deputy Jan Carnogursky. On behalf of the deputies' club of the Christian Democratic Movement [KDH], he said that society had refuted the communist regime in November 1989. At the same time it succeeded in reviving the institution and the methods of a parliamentary democracy in a civilized way.

In this year's elections—in the words of Jan Carnogursky—no party or movement obtained a clear majority of votes. Despite this, the HZDS wants, with its deputies' majority, to control three very important committees of the SNC: the Mandate and Immunity Committee, the Constitutional and Legal Committee, and the Committee for Legal Protection, Petition and Security. KDH deputies perceive this, according to Jan Carnogursky, as a threat to the security of citizens throughout the republic, especially in Slovakia.

The HZDS program, according to Jan Carnogursky, includes other projects that will endanger the social status of Slovakia's citizens and of their citizen security [obcianske istoty].

KDH deputies refused to vote for the candidate nominated for the post of SNC chairman for these reasons, and also not for candidates for the posts of SNC deputy chairmen, or for HZDS candidates nominated as members of the already mentioned three parliamentary committees.

Gasparovic Addresses Slovak Parliament

LD2306200192 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1930 GMT 23 June 92

[Inaugural speech by Slovak National Council (SNC) Chairman Ivan Gasparovic at Constituent Assembly of SNC on 23 June—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed deputies, ladies and gentlemen, esteemed Slovak National Council!

First of all allow me to thank you for the trust which you have expressed by electing me chairman of the SNC. I am fully aware that this post is a demanding and especially responsible one in this period. I am standing in front of you, esteemed deputies, and in front of all our fellow citizens in the Slovak Republic with a sense of great responsibility. I am determined to bear it together with you in the interest of the Slovak nation, national minorities, ethnic groups and all the population of our Republic.

As so many times in the past we are now going through a difficult time. Today's decisions will predetermine and affect our lives for many years to come. We must resolve many historically significant issues, first of all the tasks connected with the completion of Slovak statehood, with our relation with the Czech Republic and our other neighbors, the states of Europe and the world.

At the same time we are obliged to solve the accummulated problems in the economy and social sphere, in health care, but also in the spiritual and moral sphere, simply, in the transformation of the whole society.

I must especially stress one thing: During the solution of these problems I want to follow the road we had chosen after November 1989; to develop and strengthen pluralist democracy, the civic society and its parliamentary system; to continue to support the development of market economy; to continue the privatization of property. Here, however, I must simultaneously say that it will be necessary to unambiguously stop the unfavorable and in some branches even catastrophic drop of production, to enliven production activity and urgently solve the pressing basic social, health care and cultural needs of the citizens of our republic.

The road which we had chosen after more than 40 years of totalitarian rule is fully legitimate, inevitable and irreversible. At the same time, however, we must proceed in accordance with the will expressed by the majority of the nation, with the fundamental democratically expressed interests of the citizens of our republic. We intend to exert all our effort for the realisation of this resolve and aim.

We want to focus on the most substantial part of the legislative and supervising activity of the SNC. The

citizens have elected us as their representatives, as the representatives of their interests, of their freely expressed will. They want to know from us, however, how and where our state, our society, will go. How we are going to solve the accumulated problems, what kind of prospects we want to create for us in the family of European nations, in this geopolitically complex Central European space. Where we want to search for security and what kind of security, what we shall do for the protection and safety of individuals and groups and the whole community.

There are obviously no reliable, tested prescriptions. The laws and rules of democracy and the market developed for centuries and we have mere months not years for their implementation. We are living in a period of search for certainty, for the manners and ways of the optimal solution of the problems connected with the transformation. We want to learn from those who are more successful, to follow the example and lesson of advanced, stabilized western democracies with market, socially oriented economies but at the same time observe our conditions and traditions.

We do not want to take ill-thought out, hasty steps which we would have to soon modify. We want to act in an agreement with citizens who have given us mandates, who have expressed their will. It is our duty to keep a necessary consensus with the voters for the entire term of office, to strengthen trust, to ensure a feedback between citizens and their representatives. I consider this to be one of the most important tasks of our new democracy. Only in this way can we avoid the creation of undesirable barriers between citizens and their deputies, between citizens and authorities.

The issues of coexistence between the Czech and the Slovak nations, the most basic constitutional relations between the Czech and Slovak republics, are especially sensitive today. As we know, representatives of political parties and movements have reached the first agreements at difficult and complex talks on the future, about the removal of points of friction which have been burdening our relations. We do not want anything else than the application of the principle of democracy also in this sphere, nothing else than putting our relations on an equal footing and cleaning up our relations, cleaning them by removing unfortunate prejudice and destructive deposits, we want nothing else than an equal, mutually advantageous cooperation, an equal friendly coexistence of our republics and their citizens. We can at the same time build on historic experience, lessons from our relations to date and also on new realities and directions in the present Europe.

It is not understanding those realities, to say the least, if someone confronts the civic principle with the national principle, the emancipation process with the integration process—when they both are, or they should be, an expression of striving for democracy. Thus both principles, both processes have to be democratically supported and fulfilled.

Relations between our nations have deep roots which go back a long time. Traditions are much older than the creation of the unitarian state and we are convinced that they will continue in the future too. We have lived through good and bad times, noble and tragic moments. We do not want to close ourselves in today, we do not want to go inside our shell, into our own statehood as it is unjustly and often maliciously being alleged.

Our endeavors ensue from good resolve and intentions, from the real assessment of the situation in the needs and experience of a considerable part of our citizens. They ensue from the history of our relations, from the analysis of the past and of the misunderstandings and conflicts, but also from the recognition of their roots. We consider it necessary to create such a form and manner of coexistence which would reduce the number of points of friction as much as possible, which would ensue from the natural right of a nation to self-determination, to its own statehood expressed also in its own full-valued constitution.

This is also anchored in the constitution of the present federation. It just has not been implemented so far.

This does not mean militant separatism, nor an anachronistic nationalistic return to the past centuries, of which we are often being malevolently accused. We want to continue on the road of agreement, legitimacy, constitutionality, national tolerance and political culture. We reject force, offense against our partner, provocation, and threats. We intend to prove that our nation wants and knows how to solve its problems in such a way so as not to infringe the sovereignty, needs, interests and honour of other nations. [cries of "Bravo!" from the audience]

The road ahead of us should have the following gradual milestones: The declaration of the sovereignty of the Slovak Republic, the adoption of its constitution, the ratification referendum, and the treaty with the Czech Republic on the form of coexistence in a union of two sovereign republics.

We are convinced that there exists a form of coexistence which is able to ensure both national and civic certainties and needs able to soften and remove the present conflicts and suspicions. We do not want to stand against each other but we cannot abandon the mentioned principles. This would be giving up our own identity, our natural right for sovereignty which cannot be taken away from us. We do not at the same time subject those principles to any outside definition. We can agree on this but our rights are enshrined in all international documents, including the UN Charter. Today the main thing will be for both sides, in a democratic way, calmly and carefully to hold talks and agree on a way to arrange these relations best of all for the benefit of citizens of both our republics and to express the solution in a joint legal document.

For the first time in our modern history we have an opportunity to resolve our mutual relations without a

diktat and interference from outside. But this, however, does not mean that we shall not be taking into account realistically the important geo-political and other determining factors. We respect this opportunity with dignity and in a civilized manner.

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen deputies! At this first session we cannot talk in any great detail about the solution of economic, social, and other issues.

We expect the government of the Slovak Republic to create an effective system which will stop the present negative development. On the other hand we also expect it to lay the foundations of development stimuli and activities which will revive our economy and increase employment. [Applause]

It will create preconditions for the termination of the deep depression, for the restoration of the market, for the increase of competitiveness. The government must create a system of guarantees for the protection of the rights, freedoms, and security of the citizens from the deeds of those who ignore the natural norms of morality as well as the binding norms of the law.

We expect the government of the Slovak Republic to practise an active foreign policy which will make Slovakia visible as a democratic state of law; a state which respects fundamental European values, the individual and group rights of citizens, international law, as well as generally recognized principles of international relations.

The image of Slovakia as a humane, democratic country also involves the national character of the republic. In relation to national minorities, we will search for solutions that will allow them full-valued participation in public and political life while fully respecting their rights and interests within the framework of a European standard.

We want to make a fundamental change in our relation toward Slovaks living abroad. The countrymen who need our help will be given this help within the limits of our ability, be it in the cultural or material sphere. We shall point out and discuss their justified interests. We shall support all forms of cooperation, we shall create a larger space for their economic activities and participation in the public life of our country. [Applause]

So, to sum up, we expect the government of the Slovak Republic to specifically propose and project what is necessary to be done not only in the economy and in the social sphere, but also for the spiritual and cultural revival in foreign relations and in the legislation, in national policy at home and in relation to our countrymen living abroad, in the reinforcement of civic rights and liberties and in all the other important spheres of our social life.

Esteemed deputies, ladies and gentlemen, finally I would like to confirm here in front of you and publicly in front of the citizens of the Slovak Republic that in my new post I would like to consistently apply objective approaches. Together with you, deputies, I want to serve the public. Some politicians often declare that but even more often forget to do so. I would not like to be counted among them. I consider service to the nation and observance of the rights of minorities and all the citizens to be our duty. I want to be constructive in my cooperation with the representatives of all parties and movements, including the opposition.

The SNC is called to create a legal system of the Slovak Republic such as will guarantee the personal and collective rights and freedoms and the protection of life and health; the environment; and spiritual, moral, and property values. In our legislative policy we will protect and implement such principles as freedom of thought, conscience, speech and expression, denomination and the churches, movement, independence of judges, presumption of innocence, and other principles anchored in the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms.

I appeal to you, esteemed deputies, all citizens, to strive for civic tolerance, irrespective of our national or minority affiliation, religion, political conviction, social standing, to contribute to the restoration and development of the historical values which have found their home on the territory of our country 1,000 years ago. By our combined efforts forces we will contribute to the prosperity of the whole society. I believe that we will be assisted in this effort also by the representatives of churches and significant social organisations of our whole multi-layered pluralist society. I appeal to them in this sense and beg them to do so. The duty of all of us is such and we should also rejoice in success.

Thank you once again for the trust which you have expressed and for your attention. [Applause]

Interviewed on Slovak Sovereignty

LD2306223292 Prague Federal 1 Television Network in Slovak 2035 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Interview with Slovak National Council Chairman Ivan Gasparovic by unidentified reporter from TV station's Slovak news editorial office in Bratislava on 23 June—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] In your first speech at the end of the constituent meeting of the Slovak Parliament, you again summarized the sequence of steps which the Slovak Parliament will accept. One of the first steps, or quite the first step, is to proclaim the sovereignty of the Slovak Republic. When a similar point was to be put on the agenda of a plenary session, the previous speaker of the parliament said on more than one occasion that he was unable to carry through such a declaration of sovereignty. How do you want to secure this operation?

[Gasparovic] You certainly know the program of our Movement, and this is not the only program which contains sovereignty. The program of the Slovak

National Party mentions sovereignty too, and the program of the Party of Democratic Left, and even the program of a non-parliamentary party—the Slovak Christian Democratic Movement. I think that one of our primary tasks is to put this sovereignty in a form which would be unambiguously proclaimed by the constitution. This means that we have to express sovereignty in such a way that Slovakia could be sovereign de facto and also de jure—that means also in relation to the world, that the world recognizes us as a nation which has its own republic.

[Reporter] So this will be a sort of political declaration of sovereignty?

[Gasparovic] This will be a political declaration of sovereignty but it will also be a de facto sovereignty because we really will want to solve some issues which are specific for us, without interference from someone else, a third or fourth party.

[Reporter] A sort of clash has already occurred at this constituent session, and it is likely to continue in the further sessions of the parliament—I am thinking of the proposal to transfer, in spite of political agreements, three Christian Democratic Movement deputies from the committees to which they were nominated to other committees. The deputy of the Club of the Christian Democratic Movement spoke about this as a violation of political agreements.

[Gasparovic] There was an exchange of views, as some members of other political parties expressed disagreement with some former deputies who were in the Slovak Parliament before continuing to work in the committees in which they worked in the past, and according to them they did not fulfill their proper roles there. A situation has arisen whereby in some issues the interest was to prevent some committees from being oriented purely toward the activity of one party. Therefore I do not see in this any evil intentions of one or other side.

Naturally, it was not pleasant when a clash of two political parties occurred right at the constituent meeting of the Slovak Parliament. I think that one of my tasks will be to create in the future an atmosphere which could prevent these conflicts. I think that other parties will strive for this too, because for us very much is at stake and we will have to be unified.

Weiss Elected Deputy Head of Slovak Parliament

LD2306170992 Prague CSTK in English 1541 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Bratislava June 23 (CSTK)—Democratic Left Party (SDL) Chairman Peter Weiss was elected today first deputy chairman of the Slovak National Council (Parliament). The vote was 102 to 40.

At its constituent session, the Slovak Parliament agreed to set up a 15-member presidium and elect three deputy chairmen, one each from the HZDS [Movement for a Democratic Slovakia], the SNS [Slovak National Party] and the SDL. The deputies confirmed the establishment of ten SNR committees.

Before the voting on the committees' composition and on the parliament chairman, Jan Carnogursky, KDH chairman and premier of the outgoing Slovak Government, said KDH deputies will abstain from voting on the composition of three committees (petition, mandate and immunity, and constitutional-legal) and on the SNR chairman.

"Although no party or movement won an absolute majority in the past elections, the HZDS yet wants to hold an absolute majority of posts in all the three important committees", Carnogursky said.

HZDS Deputy Ivan Gasparovic, Czechoslovak prosecutor general from July 1990 to March 1992, was elected parliament chairman at the session.

ODS Submits Nominations for Federal Posts

LD2306231292 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Czech 2200 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The Civic Democratic Party [ODS] has nominated Jan Strasky, hitherto first deputy Czech premier, for the office of Federal Premier, and Antonin Baudys, hitherto Czech government deputy premier for Christian and Democratic Union—Czechoslovak People's Party—is nominated for the office of federal deputy premier. Miroslav Macek, deputy chairman of the ODS, is also nominated for the office of federal deputy premier. Petr Cermak, deputy chairman of the ODS, is nominated to the office of federal minister of interior. Jan Klak, another candidate for the ODS, who has been so far a deputy federal minister of finance, should become federal finance minister.

In a communique the leadership of the ODS confirmed that the Czech side will fill five seats in the federal government, and the other five seats will be filled by candidates proposed by the Movement for Democratic Slovakia.

KDU-CSL Government Seats Agreed Upon

AU2306151092 Prague CSTK in English 1720 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] Prague—The KDU-CSL [Christian Democratic Union-Czechoslovak People's Party] will have one minister in the Federal Government and three in the Czech Government, KDU-CSL Chairman Josef Lux today told journalists.

Speaking after talks with ODS [Civic Democratic Party] representatives, Lux said his party will have also five members in the Czech parliament Presidium and one deputy chairman of the Czech parliament. (KDU-CSL won 13 seats in the federal parliament and 15 seats in the Czech parliament).

Hungarian Party Opposes 'Reciprocal Autonomy'

AU2306144092 Prague CSTK in English 2040 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Bratislava—MKDH [Hungarian Christian Democratic Movement] Chairman Vojtech Bugar has spoken against a reciprocal autonomy for Hungarian Slovaks and Slovak Hungarians, according to a Slovak Radio Hungarian-language programme today.

In an interview with CSTK June 16, Bugar said the MKDH would demand autonomy as a guarantee of the rights of the 600,000-strong Hungarian minority in Slovakia in case Slovakia withdrew from the federation. He said the MKDH supports a functioning common state of Czechs and Slovaks in which, however, the Hungarian minority would like to have cultural and educational autonomy.

On June 18, KDH [Christian Democratic Movement] chairman and current Slovak Premier Jan Carnogursky reacted to Bugar's statement, saying he would not back the MKDH's effort to win autonomy for the Hungarians living in Slovakia. He said there are Slovaks in southern Slovakia (where most Hungarians live) who would not agree with it. He, however, did not reject autonomy in education and culture as the KDH would like to secure similar autonomy for the ethnic Slovaks living in Hungary.

KDH Against Autonomy for Hungarian Minority

AU2306150092 Prague CSTK in English 1340 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] Bratislava—KDH [Christian Democratic Movement] Chairman and outgoing Slovak Premier Jan Carnogursky said his movement would not support attempts by the MKDH [Hungarian Christian Democratic Movement] to create an autonomous region in southern Slovakia for the republic's Hungarian minority. He said that also living in the area are Slovaks who would disagree with the formation of an autonomous Hungarian region.

However, Carnogursky did not rule out KDH support for educational and cultural autonomy for Slovakia's Hungarian population, saying that the KDH favors similar rights for Slovaks living in Hungary.

Economic Costs to Slovakia of Secession Viewed

LD1106175592 Cologne Deutschlandfunk Network in German 1505 GMT 9 Jun 92

[From the "Business and Society" program]

[Text] The topic of the economy in East Europe also occupies us in this last report, for Czechoslovakia is threatening to fall apart. Following the parliamentary elections, in the Czech Republic the party of President Havel has won, in Slovakia, on the other hand, the separatists have won. Talks arranged for today between the two parties ended without a result. A split of the two republics would have not only political consequences, but also economic ones. The initial reactions from abroad indicate that there is both concern and optimism about Czechoslovakia as a potential site for future investment. But who would be the loser if there were a separation? What is the economic substance of the Czech Republic and Slovakia? Rainer Koch has the answers:

[Begin Koch recording]: It is generally regarded as certain that if there were a division of the CSFR both republics would suffer economically, because for over 70 years they have been closely interdependent. Of course, Slovakia would be hit much harder. It is less developed, largely dependent on foreign countries and the Czech Republic for energy supplies, and the transition to the market economy is having far graver effects there than in Bohemia and Moravia.

For most of its factories, the partition of the country would mean the loss of the larger proportion of the domestic market. New markets can hardly be opened up, foreign trade is running on a [word indistinct] basis, even with its western neighbors. [passage indistinct] economic reform after independence, especially consistent privatization, then in both republics there would very soon be such different economic systems that the disintegration of the links that have grown up would be accelerated even more.

In addition, an independent Slovakia would be faced with an avalanche of costs. Just the establishment of a central bank would require the equivalent of almost a billion Deutsche marks. It would cost several million marks to set up and maintain an independent system of diplomatic and economic foreign missions, and it would have to be done with markedly lower levels of revenue.

At present, the smaller Slovakia receives from the Czech Republic a solidarity contribution that is reviewed annually, a supplement to the Slovak state budget the loss of which would leave a considerable gap. To mention only one further example, it would have to finance unemployment benefits on its own. Even now, though, Slovakia has an unemployment rate almost four times higher than the Czech part of the country. The frontier between the two countries also divides a functioning infrastructure. [passage indistinct] areas near the frontier would lose their entire economic hinterland, and would possibly be transformed into virtual crisis areas. Hence, where Slovakia and Moravia share a frontier the fear of a split is at its greatest.

And there is a further aspect that Slovak separatists (?do not) want to take into account. Foreign investment is even now only very reluctantly going to the smaller of the two republics. The particularly active Germans, for example, are clearly concentrating on Bohemia and Moravia. Siemens is cooperating with Skoda Pilzen, VW with the Skoda car works in Mlada Boleslav, Mercedes-Benz with the truck manufacturers Avia and Liaz in Prague and northern Bohemia. If Slovakia secedes, and

what's more under a [word indistinct] nationalistic government with clear reservations about the market economy, then that may well deter foreign investors for some time to come. This would mean that the Slovak economy, which is in urgent need of modernization, would not get what it needs more than anything—capital and modern know-how. And the Czechs' lead, which after all still persists, will grow to such an extent that Slovakia could not catch up with them again, or so most economists here think. [passage indistinct] more and more people in the Czech Republic are saying that the Slovaks should be given what they want, for the path into the EC for Bohemia and Moravia would anyway be shorter and easier, they argue. [end recording]

Officials Comment on Privatization Division

AU1506081592 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 10 Jun 92 p 3

[Interview with Coupon Privatization Center Director Jaroslav Lizner and Deputy Federal Finance Minister Ivan Kocarnik by a "bb"- signed correspondent; place and date not given: in the "Questions For" column]

[LIDOVE NOVINY] What technical measures can be taken to divide privatization?

[Lizner] Coupon privatization is designed so that it operates with two centers—in Prague and in Bratislava. Therefore a division would not cause any technical problem. The computer database is divisible according to the place of permanent residence. The specific form of technical separation depends on the pending political decision.

[Kocarnik] The entire method of coupon privatization has inherent possibilities of division. The Investment Coupon Holders [DIK] are registered according to republics and so are of course the investment funds and enterprises. We can use several methods to resolve this problem, and one of them is the annulment of the first round of coupon privatization results and application of the coupons in the second round, this time only in the appropriate republic.

Break-Up's Effect on Energy Sources Analyzed

AU1906095392 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 12 Jun 92 p 3

[Vladimir Cechlovsky article: "Could the Main Energy Arteries Be Cut Off?"]

[Text] The Czech Republic's existence is dependent on the supply of important raw materials that can be transported, so far through Slovakia only. Considerations about the federation's possible breakup inspire questions over whether the main arteries of our economy—mainly crude oil and natural gas supplies—can be cut off. It is technically possible.

However, experts usually say that as long as an "economic war" is not declared, there are too many economic reasons for not cutting off the flow of fuel and energy.

The most clear example is the Czech dependence on crude oil. All imported crude oil flows into the Czech Republic from Slovakia through the Druzba and Adria pipelines. According to data of the Federal Statistical Office, Czechoslovakia last year imported 11.2 million tons of crude oil. Of this, 4.9 million tons were processed in Bratislava's Slovnaft, and the rest—6.3 million tons—in Czech refineries. Oil extraction in the Czech Republic is negligible, and there are no alternate routes for transporting the necessary amount of crude oil. On the other hand, a continuous supply of crude oil to the Czech Republic is in the interests of the Slovak Republic, since the economic benefit of the pipelines' operation would significantly deteriorate.

The Dependence Is Temporary

The unilateral dependence on the transportation routes from Slovakia is, in the case of crude oil, only temporary. The construction of the pipelines that will connect our refineries in Litvinov and Kralupy with the Ingolstadt pipelines should start soon. The pipelines should have a capacity of up to 10 million tonnes of crude oil per annum. The question is, however, when this branch of pipelines will be put into operation. If everything goes well, then in 1994, at the earliest.

In view of the existing capacities built in the past, there are many crude oil products delivered from the Slovak Republic to the Czech Republic: 117,000 tons of gasoline (the entire production in the CSFR was 1.5 million tons in 1991); 522,000 tons of diesel fuel (the overall production of diesel fuel and heating oil was 3.2 million tons); 26,000 tons of light heating oil, and 290,000 tons of heavy heating oil (the overall heating oil production was 3.5 million tons in the CSFR). Experts say that a possible cut in these supplies could be compensated by our own production or by imports from neighboring countries. The Slovak petrochemical industry would not be interested in cutting these down, since it would lose an important part of its sales.

Gas Must Flow

In the opinion of experts, the Czech Republic is very vulnerable in the sphere of natural gas supplies. Natural gas transits the Czech Republic, and the Czech Republic itself consumes only one-fifth of the gas delivered to this country (in 1991, the consumption of natural gas in the CSFR was 13.7 billion cubic meters—7.7 billion in the Czech Republic and 6 billion in the Slovak Republic). Both republics are highly interested in meeting their international obligations, since this is the only way of collecting transit fees in the form of gas or money. With respect to the position of our country as a transit country for natural gas, the CIS should remain the decisive supplier to both our republics.

For completeness, it remains to be said that some important types of fuel or energy are directed in the opposite direction, that is, from the Czech Republic to the Slovak Republic: 2.5 million tons of coking black coal; 0.16 million tons of energetic [energeticke] coal (the entire production of black coal reached 19.5 million tons in the CSFR last year, according to data of the Federal Statistical Office); 4.3 million tons of brown coal (overall annual production in the CSFR is 80 million tons); 0.4 million tons of coke; and 0.15 million tons of pellets. A total of 3,173 Gigawatthours of electricity were supplied to Slovakia last year (CSFR production was 83,378 Gigawatthours last year).

Baksay Says Threat of Break-Up Affecting Trade

LD2306203392 Prague CSTK in English 1946 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Bratislava June 23 (CSTK)—Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister Jozef Baksay today voiced concern over the current developments in Czechoslovakia which is beginning to influence the behavior of some foreign partners.

Addressing journalists at the opening of the 24th international chemical trade fair "Incheba 92", Baksay said that for example Sweden has suspended its investments in Czechoslovakia due to the current threat of its breakup.

Baksay nevertheless stated that Czechoslovakia's foreign trade is at present effective and stabilised. The turn in this field came in the second quarter of 1991 when the country's exports started to prevail over its imports, he said.

At present, most Czechoslovak exports go to the countries of the European Community (EC) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). The third most important territory for the country's exports are Poland and Hungary, Baksay said. He added that in the first quarter of 1992, over 30 per cent of Czechoslovakia's exports went to Germany, and over 31 per cent of imports, mainly raw materials, came from the countries of the former Soviet Union.

Czech Government Will Inherit Balanced Budget

AU2206132392 Prague CSTK in English 1732 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] Prague—Czech Finance Minister Karel Spacek (OH) told journalists today the next Czech Government will begin with a balanced budget. "After we receive additional funds from the federal budget, the Czech Republic budget will have a surplus of 800 million crowns (27.6 million USD)", he said.

He said that earlier this year the government had not met planned levels of revenues, particularly from turnover and payroll taxes. He added that turnover tax will be levied on tobacco and liquors.

Minister, Secretaries Appointed by President

LD2206163392 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1300 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Republic President Arpad Goncz appointed Tibor Fuezessy as a minister without portfolio, Tamas Katona as the political state secretary at the prime minister's office, Erzsebet Pusztai as the political state secretary at the Ministry of Social Welfare, and Andras Kelemen as the political state secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At the taking of the oath, Jozsef Antall, head of the government, Interior Minister Peter Boross, and Social Welfare Minister Laszlo Surjan were present.

Tibor Fuezessy is a law graduate and worked at the [former] Supreme Prosecutor's Office for about 20 years. Formerly he was the parliamentary faction leader of the Christian Democratic People's Party. His name is associated with the party's reorganization.

Tamas Katona is a historian and after the 1990 elections he became the political state secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Young Democrat Leader Views Party's Position

AU2306193192 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 22 Jun 92 p 3

[Interview with Viktor Orban, faction leader of the Federation of Young Democrats, by Attila Farkas; place and date not given: "Government Philosophy: Anyone Who Is Not With Us Is Suspicious"]

[Text] The parliamentary faction of the Federation of Young Democrats [FIDESZ] held a three-day discussion on the general political situation, the position of the Hungarian parties, and the preparation for the next parliamentary elections in Szilvasvarad. Members of the party's presidium and of the economic working group also participated in the meeting. Viktor Orban informed our newspaper on the discussions that ended on 21 June.

[Farkas] How did you assess the current political state of the country?

[Orban] The country's political mood is excited and sometimes incensed. The government ruled by the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] goes from one scandal to another and these scandals prevail in political life. The government is trying to stir up emotions through court cases—the Eorsi lawsuit or the Torgyan lawsuit—and in the meantime, it is trying to infiltrate all areas of society's life. It is trying to organize and possess the various spheres by using forceful and fanatical people—from the press to the professional and other interest representation organizations. The social philosophy of the Antall government is the following: "Anyone who is not with us is suspicious." In addition to creating an adverse situation, this also diverts the way of thinking in the wrong direction in the long run. Regardless of whether the Antall government remains in power after the next elections, it is trying to disrupt society.

[Farkas] During the discussions, you paid special attention to analyzing relations between the parliamentary parties. What may characterize the FIDESZ's relations with the other parties in the future?

[Orban] In our view, a radical political trend will characterize the Christian Democratic People's Party [KDNP] after the change of their faction leader. The KDNP, which is considered to be a quiet and gray party even by its own members, may easily become a radical party by these influential people coming to the forefront. Until this happens, the FIDESZ sees no obstacles to holding consultations with them. The FIDESZ opposes and fights against the politics of the MDF directed at disheveling society—as I detailed it earlier. We established at the discussions that our thesis on the MDF set up at our congress was correct, according to which the MDF has not three but only one intellectual tendency, namely the popular-national tendency. This is well proved by the fact that the MDF has not once had an internal conflict resulting from the differences of the tendencies. We did not discuss the Independent Smallholders Party because it would be very hard to decide just what this organization is. As for the Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ], we do not feel that there is any need to fundamentally change our relations. We can work together with the SZDSZ most regularly and the best way, and this relationship can be made even more intense. The only thing that makes regular contact difficult with the SZDSZ is that the formal and the informal hierarchies do not coincide in this party. I believe that the SZDSZ is on the way out of its crisis and that there is a chance to put its affairs in order if they manage to elect the next chairman without any problems. Unfortunately, the situation has changed with the Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP]. At our congress in February I said that we were happy that the socialists had "left the ghetto" and they had every hope for becoming a modern social democratic party. Now we think that this chance has been considerably reduced because the social democratic tendency suffered a defeat at the MSZP congress. The MSZP is turning into a third force party similar to the European communist parties of the 1960's and 1970's, with a strong trade union basis. This can take it back to the ghetto.

[Farkas] What were your conclusions when analyzing your preparations for the elections?

[Orban] We have to take into consideration the results of both the by-elections and the opinion research polls, but we must not overestimate the lessons learned from them. Therefore, we cannot draw far-reaching conclusions from either the favorable figures of the opinion polls or the defeats at the by-elections. Although, there is an improvement in the latter because FIDESZ candidates won three of the by-elections a week ago. Part of the reason was that we are now trying to prepare more thoroughly for the local government by-elections. In our view the FIDESZ has a realistic chance at the next parliamentary elections for a victory and for taking up a government party position. We had enough of being in

opposition. We cannot keep watching idly the mistakes of the coalition and its politics that endanger society on the long run.

[Farkas] You were elected faction leader with a large majority, and you were also entrusted with coordinating the preparation for governing. Could this also mean that you may be the FIDESZ's prime minister designate at the next elections?

[Orban] We have not made a formal decision, and anyway, I think that this should be decided by a broader forum than the faction. What is happening now is that everyone is being given concrete tasks within the group of deputies. I was given this task, and I must carry it out while I am authorized to do so. Actually, at the faction weekend we also spoke about the need for avoiding personal rivalry—although this is not typical of us—and that all personal ambitions should be subordinated to the interests of the FIDESZ.

President Briefs Education Forum on Region

LD2306230792 Budapest MTV Television Network in Hungarian 1730 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Attending the Budapest conference of the European region of the international association of community education, which began today, are 140 experts including sociologists, teachers, economists, and political scientists. Half of them are West European. The conference was opened by Hungarian President Arpad Goncz, who briefly analyzed for the international audience the situation in our country and the region.

[Begin Goncz recording] Those who do not live in this region view with a lack of comprehension how in Central Europe public life for the most part is the arena for the battles of the political leading stratum and the parties. Those who wield power, alluding to elections which legally were free but which were strongly influenced by passions, receive with ever less concealed irritation the opinions or endeavors of the opposition minority, thereby disheartening the tender young organizations of civil society and forcing millions of citizens into apathy and indifference rather than activity.

Those who do not live in this region think that the power elite, whether the masked inheritors of the former system or whether the new leaders who surfaced with the changes, occasionally consider the building and consolidation of their power position to be most important, while the serious capital, the creative capital, the capital which really facilitates the catching up of the region watches the agony of our countries and our erupting emotions while maintaining a distance. With a sort of Darwinian attitude, it is the viable survivor whom it is ready to support. [end recording]

He added that the change of system entailed the least shock in Hungary. For precisely this reason, our country, despite all the political disputes and economic confusion, is the most stable country in the region. [passage omitted]

Premier Calls for Removal of Radio, TV Heads

LD2306124492 Budapest MTI in English 1030 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Budapest, June 23 (MTI)—'Considering a Constitutional Court ruling of June 10, the Hungarian prime minister today repeatedly applied to the president of the republic to relieve radio President Csaba Gombar of his post as of July 1,' says a communique issued by the prime minister's press office today.

'The Hungarian president has appointed Dr Laszlo Csucs radio vice-president bearing in mind that he, as the only deputy, will act as a general deputy to the radio president.

'Also, considering the vice-president was appointed according to procedures stipulated by the law, in the prime minister's view, in accord with the Constitutional Court ruling, there are no obstacles to relieving Csaba Gombar.

'The parliament cultural committee has recently heard the television president as well. After the hearing, it suggested the prime minister take steps to name a successor to Television President Elemer Hankiss and propose to relieve him of his post.

'On the basis of the committee's position, the prime minister today applied to the president of the republic to relieve Hankiss, but only as of September 15, as a successor has yet to be named.'

National Bank To Devalue Forint by 1.6 Percent

LD2306165292 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1600 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Excerpt] We have just learned that as of tomorrow the National Bank will devalue the forint by 1.6 percent against the convertible currencies. According to the official communique, the extent of the devaluation corresponds to this year's goals in exchange rate policy, taking into consideration the fact that price increases in the first four months of the year were lower than planned. Frigyes Harshegyi, deputy president of the National Bank, stated that the small-scale devaluation is due to the bank's so-called realistic revaluing price policy, which means that it is correcting exchange rates by a smaller extent than domestic inflation would justify. [passage omitted]

No Reduction in Oil Flow Through Pipeline

LD2206142592 Budapest MTI in English 1224 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Budapest, June 22 (MTI-ECONEWS)—Russian television announced on Saturday that the Ukraine

would reduce the flow of Russian crude oil in the Friendship [Druzhba] pipeline, which crosses its territory, by 25 per cent in order to force the payment of a transit fee. By this morning, however, officials at the Hungarian oil company have seen no reduction in the flow.

Gabor Jozsef, managing director of the Hungarian oil and gas plc, told MTI this morning that the Ukrainian operator of the pipeline has not informed Mol of any cutback, nor has Mol experienced any hitches in the oil delivery.

The friendship pipeline supplies hydrocarbons to Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

The amount of Russian oil coming to Hungary is confidential information, Jozsef said. Mol has a valid contract to purchase 2 million tonnes of oil in 1992, as recommended in the indicative list appended to the Hungarian-Russian interstate agreement. Hungary pays for the imports with hard currency, and deliveries have so far fulfilled the contract terms.

Mol expects to purchase a further 3 million tonnes of oil under short-term contracts. Mol hopes that the Adria oil pipeline will be put into service again soon.

Hungary currently has sufficient oil reserves for over 20 days, Jozsef told MTI.

Satellite Television Broadcasts Slated To Begin

LD2306225292 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1830 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] The consortium Hungarodigitel is facilitating the speedy transfer of information between banks and computer networks by means of a satellite telecommunications system. It is possible that the satellite transmission of Hungarian television programs will begin this year. This is what Jozsef Bartha, managing director of the Hungarian Broadcasting Company, told Levente Suekoesd.

[Begin recording] [Bartha] We have tried out a few of Eutelsat's satellites. On the basis of the results we established which satellite, which channel, and which type of antenna would be most suitable. Then we took further steps so that we would be able to realize in the near future the technological background for such direct satellite transmissions of Hungarian programs.

We are not the ones who will organize this undertaking. We will only be the technical suppliers. Having surveyed the situation, the current state of the media law, and the enormous demand which has arisen among the Hungarian-speaking people who live outside the country's borders, and since everyone here in Hungary also expects this, I feel that there is a possibility for us to realize such regular television transmissions this year.

[Suekoesd] What firms or enterprises would be willing to get involved in such a venture?

[Bartha] I think that the Hungarian Broadcasting Company would create the ground station. It would send the signal from the ground station to the satellite.

The situation is much more interesting and exciting regarding the realization of the economic and studio aspects. During the first venture, budgetary support will be necessary for the project to be launched.

[Suekoesd] Will this come from the Hungarian Government?

[Bartha] Yes, there might be a need for support from the Hungarian Government. This could influence the speed of the launch. I believe that in a year a studio program could be created in Hungary, even without support, which would be able to finance itself from commercial revenue. Naturally this would not happen in the first year, but it will with a little patience. However, I also envisage the creation of a foundation which makes use of assistance from the Hungarians in the world and the Hungarians in Hungary in order to realize such a program.

[Suekoesd] Will Hungarian television's satellite transmissions begin this year?

[Bartha] I very much hope so. I believe there is a possibility of this. [end recording]

UD To Only Support Majority Government

LD2406081692 Warsaw PAP in English 2235 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Warsaw, June 23—The Democratic Union's (UD) presidium decided Tuesday [23 Jun] that the UD will support a government formed by Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak only if it is a majority government.

Spokesman for the UD parliamentary caucus Andrzej Potocki said that the presidium of the democratic party did not discuss during its Tuesday meeting any alternative solutions in case of the failure of Premier Pawlak's government-forming mission.

Speaking about the chances for forming a parliamentary majority Potocki described the attitutde of the Center Accord (PC) as "unclear and unpredictable" and observed that PC's internal problems made it impossible for that party to formulate constructive proposals.

The debates of the UD presidium are to be continued on Wednesday. On that day the UD leader Tadeusz Mazowiecki is to meet with Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak.

Parties Seek To Create 'Alternative Coalition'

LD2306182292 Warsaw PAP in English 1723 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Warsaw, June 23—Five parties on Tuesday declared that they "intend to create an alternative coalition ready to construct a government immediately after Waldemar Pawlak's mission expires." At the same time they reiterated their refusal to support the Pawlak government.

A joint statement issued after the five-party meeting was signed by representatives of the Christian National Union (ZChN), the Centre Alliance (PC), the Peasant Agreement (PL), the Peasant Christian Alliance (SLCh) and the Christian Democratic Party (PChD). Leader of the Solidarity Union Parliamentary Caucus Bogdan Borusewicz attended the final stage of the meeting.

Representatives of the five parties expressed concern over the prolonged government crisis which "hampers Poland's prestige in the international arena and leads to a dramatic rise in social tensions in the country that remain unsolved."

"All this threatens with destabilization of the state," the statement warned. "Poland needs a government of reforms, not confrontation and political and economic regress," it added.

The five parties count on an over 230-vote majority in parliament. ZChN deputy chairman said the five also count on winning some more parties support. He added that the five are ready to start talks with the Confederation for Independent Poland (KPN).

The Pawlak government would have to get votes of (ex) communists (in parliament) and in such a situation our party will certainly not support this government, Goryszewski said.

Pawlak Considers Dismissing PAP President

LD2306185792 Warsaw PAP in English 1818 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Warsaw, June 23—Polish Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak told a press conference on Tuesday that he "did not rule out the possibility" of dismissing Krzysztof Czabanski, head of the POLISH PRESS AGENCY (PAP).

Pawlaks remarks follow a claim in Tuesdays edition of "GAZETA WYBORCZA" that Aleksander Luczak, head of the Cabinet Office, tried unsuccessfully to persuade Czabanski to withdraw a PAP report on petrol shortages in Poland. Pawlak insisted that the intervention from the cabinet did not represent a form of censorship.

"Krzysztof Czabanski is entitled to be an independent reporter on his own account, but not as head of PAP," he said. He called on the agency to show "responsibility" in its reporting of controversial news items.

Pawlak declined to comment on whether PAP should act as an official government agency, saying that the agencys future role should be decided only after "wide-ranging discussions." Pawlak added that there was no reason for the Government to intervene in PAPs activities, but that the agency should not spend time seeking out sensational items to report.

Asked to comment on the prime ministers remarks, PAP President Krzysztof Czabanski said that he would welcome a personal meeting with Pawlak to discuss the general criticisms being made of PAPs activities. He added that it would be "unseemly" for him to engage in polemics with the prime minister through the medium of the PAP news service.

Walesa Signs Friendship Treaty With Byelarus

LD2306183192 Warsaw PAP in English 1601 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Warsaw, June 23—Discussions held on Tuesday between President Lech Walesa and President of the Supreme Council of Byelarus Stanislav Shushkevich had been "open and optimistic," said Presidential Press Spokesman Andrzej Drzycimski.

The discussions accompanied the signature earlier in the day of a Polish-Byelarusian treaty on good-neighbourly relations and friendly cooperation.

Drzycimski said that the 2 leaders discussed the need to develop trade links and cross-border cooperation, to

regulate the situation at the Polish-Byelarusian border, and to offer Byelarus access to the sea through Poland via Gdynia.

It was agreed that the customs services of both states are to meet to formalise methods of cooperation, and it is hoped that a joint cross-border infrastructure will be set up, with customs officers and border guards from both countries. A joint commission is to be set up to deal with mutual relations and trade exchanges.

Later, President Shushkevich met with Polish Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak. At a press conference, Shushkevich said he believed that his visit to Poland would be a success. He said that Polish-Byelarusian relations were currently good, and looked forward to further improvements as a result of economic and political talks between the two sides.

Asked about the Polish minority in Byelarus, Shushkevich said that he spoke on behalf of his government in saying that the rights of all minorities living in Byelarus were fully respected by the authorities. He also noted that the situation of the Byelarusian minority in Poland had significantly improved in recent years, thanks to the "understanding and peaceful policies of the Polish Government."

Following his meeting with Pawlak, President Shushkevich then met with the speakers of the Sejm (Wieslaw Chrzanowski) and the Senate (August Chelkowski). Afterwards, Chrzanowski said that their discussions had focussed on economic matters, and on contacts between individual citizens. President Shushkevich declared that he would work to create the best possible conditions for minorities in Btelarus.

Following the meeting with Speaker of the Sejm Wieslaw Chrzanowski, the press office of the Sejm Chancellery announced that there had been discussion on the development of bilateral contacts in a wide range of areas, including Polish involvement in educational programmes for minority groups in Byelarus, and technical assistance in the restoration of historic and religious monuments. Poland and Byelarus are also keen to expand bilateral inter-parliamentary contacts.

President Shushkevich invited Chrzanowski to make a first visit, as leader of an official delegation of the Polish Sejm, to Byelarus. Chrzanowski accepted the invitation with pleasure, and the date will now be fixed through diplomatic channels.

At a meeting with the Polish parliamentary group for contact with Byelarus, President Shushkevich expressed gratitude to the Polish Government for its (positive) relationship towards Poland's Belarusian minority, and promised similar moves by the Byelarusian authorities towards the country's Polish minority. He also supported present moves to enable future bilateral TV retransmissions, from Warsaw and from Minsk, which has become possible thanks to a sharp reduction of Russian-language transmissions in Byelarus.

Later, President Shushkevich met with Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski, where further matters relating to the Polish minority in Byelarus were discussed.

Skubiszewski told reporters that he had raised with Shushkevich issues relating to former Polish property in territory now part of Byelarus. They also discussed the decision by Byelarus to suspend from January 1, 1991 the payment of invalidity and retirement pensions, and other social security payments, to Polish citizens originally from former Polish territories now in Byelarus.

Skubiszewski noted that all questions relating to privatisation, and the restitution of confiscated property, are difficult to resolve. He added that any resolution of social security issues would require a new social security agreement between Poland and Byelarus.

They also discussed progress in implementation of the conventional arms reduction treaty for Europe, particularly the division of Soviet responsibilities under the provisions of the treaty to the Soviet Union's successor states.

Bank Chief Says Foreign Trade Surplus Recorded

LD2306230192 Warsaw PAP in English 2133 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Warsaw, June 23—Poland's surplus in foreign trade in the first five months of this year amounted to 340 million dollars, while there was a deficit amounting to 1 billion, 164 million dollars in the same period last year, Director of the Foreign Department of the National Bank of Poland Wlodzimierz Kicinski said in Warsaw Tuesday.

The credit balance was determined primarily by the surplus of the commodity turnover and cancelling the interest rates under the agreement on the debt reduction signed with the Paris Club, Kicinski said.

Minister Says Fuel Situation Not Dangerous

LD2406082492 Warsaw PAP in English 2222 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Warsaw, June 23—Minister of Industry and Trade Andrzej Lipko thinks that the situation on the fuel market is not and will not be dangerous. The Commercial Centre for Oil Industry (CPN) has reserves of petrol and only its distribution can be erratic, spokesman for the Ministry Grazyna Lewandowska told PAP Tuesday.

The CPN has reserves of 32,000 tonnes of petrol, that is, enough for 4 days of sales, CPN press spokesman Ryszard Gluszczyk said Tuesday.

Quoting data of the main customs office, Gluszczyk added that private petrol imports came entirely to a halt last May. According to Gluszczyk, over 2,000 private stations do not at all sell petrol unless they buy it from

the CPN. Asked about the causes for the absence of private imports, Gluszczyk said that they were unprofitable.

In his opinion, the shortages of 94-octane petrol, almost entirely produced in Poland, are caused by a two-month repair of the Gdansk oil refinery, to be completed on June 25, and by a partial repair of the Plock oil refinery.

The CPN district management in Warsaw said that all types of fuel were continually on sale in Poland's capital. It said that also in the summer season there should be no difficulties in the distribution of petrol and diesel fuel in Warsaw.

Ene Returns From Chisinau Four-Way Talks

AU2306183792 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1700 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Mr. Constantin Ene, state secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs returned today from Chisinau, where he represented the Romanian side in the four-way meeting that was held there at the level of deputy foreign ministers of Romania, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine.

In an interview for Romanian Radio, Mr. Ene said that during the meeting, ways and means were examined through which calm could be returned to the Republic of Moldova and the practical need that this issue should continue to be approached exclusively from a political angle was reasserted.

Mr. Constantin Ene also stressed that the sides discussed a special issue that referred to the observers in the conflict area and noted that they succeeded in preserving this institution whose nucleus will continue to be in Chisinau.

Bessarabian Students Protest Moldova Conflict

AU2306190192 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1756 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/6/1992—Members of the League of Bessarabian Students in Romania formed a picket Tuesday, June 23, in front of the Russian Embassy in Bucharest, to protest against Moscow's stance on conflict in Transdniestria.

One of the organizers said that the students from the Republic of Moldova intended to organize permanent 20-people pickets in front of the Russian Embassy, to protest against the aggression of the 14th Army in Moldova.

Nastase, NATO Ambassadors Discuss Moldova

AU2306190092 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1814 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/6/1992—The head of the Romanian diplomacy, Adrian Nastase, convened, Tuesday, June 23, at the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the ambassadors of the NATO countries accredited in Bucharest.

As part of the exchange of information and opinions between Romania and the NATO countries, Adrian Nastase presented the points of view of the government of his country on the latest developments in the Republic of Moldova.

Iliescu Discusses Ethnic, Economic Issues

AU2306120592 Bucharest LIBERTATEA in Romanian 10-11 Jun 92 pp 1, 2

[Part two of interview with President Ion Iliescu by Emil Jurca; place and date not given: "Let Us Be Serious, It Is Not Realistic and It Is Inadmissible To Raise the Question of Ardeal [Transylvania and Banat] or Its Segregation"]

[Text] [Jurca] A meeting on security issues was recently held in the Kremlin at which Romania was accused of providing Moldova with weapons. All sorts of things were said about Romania, while not a word was uttered about the 14th Army and its readiness for war. What attitude should we adopt at this point toward this new interference in the domestic affairs of a sovereign state—I am speaking of the Republic of Moldova.

[Iliescu] I think that we have tried to take a balanced attitude toward this event. On the one hand, we have supported without reservation the Moldovan leadership's assertion of its status as an independent and sovereign state and its efforts to defend its integrity. This is something which Romania also achieved through public declarations and support within such international bodies as the CSCE in Helsinki, where preparatory proceedings are taking place in light of the coming summit. We have also initiated a dialogue between the four states involved in these events. This was appreciated at the international level. I am speaking of the activities of the joint commission, the meetings of the foreign ministers and the joint commission in the field, including the recent meeting of military observers, in order to contribute to the easing of tension, to a cease-fire, and the withdrawal of military formations to their positions. As far as certain events in Moscow are concerned, we are talking about confrontations between certain extremist, nationalist, and great Russian formations which are inspired by the nostalgia for the former empire, and democratic forces which are dealing with matters in a more realistic way. We can only hope that eventually the realistic democratic forces will exert the influence necessary to stop the deterioration caused by extremism. Of course, the situation remains tense, as far as I can see, and the separatist forces are receiving outside encouragement. I can see that they are very active and it is difficult to assess how things will develop in the not too distant future. We hope that international groups will exert the influence necessary to stop these trends and to support the efforts made by the Moldovan leadership.

[Jurca] The Hungarian press continues to raise the problem of Ardeal, an issue that is also receiving official attention. What should be the attitude of the Romanian Government, the press, our means of propaganda, and of the mass media in general against such interference and attacks against the integrity of Romanian territory?

[Iliescu] I recently said this in Cluj: We have to be consistent in our foreign policy orientation! As a matter

of fact, even the representatives of the Hungarian state deny in official statements the fact that they may claim territory or a modification in border. This is to be included in the bilateral treaty that is being negotiated. It seems to me that this is an essential issue that has to be seen within the framework of the general European process and the platform which we all endorsed by signing the Helsinki and Paris documents. This is essential for establishing an atmosphere of understanding. In connection with exacerbating the tensions relating to the problems and rights of minorities, I think that this is not a constructive stance by a number of circles in Hungary, especially since in political and parliamentary practice—as I have said before—we are ready to carry out a comparative study at any time. I think that at this point Romania is up to European standards. Maybe from this point of view we are ahead of others as far as ensuring the rights and freedoms of all minorities are concerned, including religious and political rights as well as ethnic ones. We are probably one of the few states with representatives of all minority groups in Parliament, not to mention the other rights regarding education, culture, and publications in their mother tongue. This means that each of these minorities is able to use its mother tongue and to maintain its own culture. I think that we should have no complexes when it comes to the rights and freedoms of ethnic minorities. Romanian delegations have participated in various European forums aimed at issuing generally valid standards within the European context and we promote such a position. As I have said before, however, I think that considering things realistically—a realistic attitude must dominate in politics—it is in the mutual interest of Romania and Hungary to seek a language of understanding.

Preserving a situation of suspicion and mutual mistrust is not in the interest of our countries. History has placed us in this part of the world, we are neighbors, and we have to learn to coexist on the basis of mutual esteem and regard. As far as the Hungarian population in our country is concerned, they are citizens of Romania who do not need any foreign defenders for their interests. The Romanian state guarantees and ensures all of their rights and opportunities to express themselves and it is the first party interested in protecting the interests of its citizens, including ethnic minorities. As a matter of fact, I have noted that the common people in such areas have always found a language of understanding. Let us be serious: It is not realistic and it is inadmissible to raise the question of Ardeal's autonomy, as some people pose the problem, or its segregation. Ardeal has always been Romanian soil. It was the cradle of the Romanian nation. There have always been Romanians in that area and they always have formed the majority, including the period of Austro-Hungarian domination. They were always the majority population of Transylvania. As for today, of the approximately nine million people in Transylvania, the Romanians constitute the great majority. The Hungarians amount to approximately one million people.

[Jurca] The embargo against Iraq has cost us some $3 billion. Romania has now joined the UN embargo against Yugoslavia, or what is left of it. Are there any guarantees that this time around the Romanians will not be deceived as they have been so often, and that they will not be kept waiting at the door of the powerful and ignored? Are there any guarantees that this effort by Romanians will be appreciated and that it will earn a favorable response?

[Iliescu] Not only are there no guarantees, but we have to get used to the idea that this embargo will cost us money. I have stated publicly that this embargo affects the Serbs primarily, the peoples of Yugoslavia, and it also hits its neighbors with whom Yugoslavia maintains developed relations. Thus, there are no measures to avoid the effects on the people who are not guilty at all. We also have to take into consideration the need for joining the measures imposed by the international agencies if we do not want to be isolated and pushed to the periphery in our foreign policy. We have sent a letter to the chiefs of state of the Group of Seven emphasizing that, as far as we are concerned, the embargo against Yugoslavia is a sort of self-embargo because it affects us directly. We maintain relations with Yugoslavia, we are neighboring states, and the extent of our relations is important. This will mean great losses for us at a time when our economy is facing very great problems already! I have actually requested—the government is estimating these losses—that compensation, which is needed by the states affected by this embargo, be discussed. We did the same thing in the case of the embargo against Iraq without any results.

[Jurca] Mr. President, how do you view the near future of Romania?

[Iliescu] For the near future, I view the situation as not very easy. Difficulties are increasing in magnitude. We are going through a very difficult year. The goal set by the Stolojan government to stop our decline, the "zero increase," from the very beginning seemed to me to be an ambitious objective and that it would be desirable to achieve it. I am afraid that we will not succeed in doing so this year, however, and these efforts will probably extend into 1993. The next four years will be years of efforts for the next Parliament in an attempt to reach a balance in the economic situation, in order to take the economy out of this crisis and to accumulate the necessary factors for reigniting the economy. This will be our major political and economic objective in the next four years. Thus, the difficulties in the economic activity, in the transition process, are the ones that will dominate our efforts in the years to come and they will also dominate the social costs which affect people's lives. I believe that this must be the major fear and concern of all political forces, especially for those who will be involved in government responsibilities. As for the more distant future, we can and must stay optimistic. Actually, there is no alternative but to be optimistic. We have to be confident that we will overcome this complicated and difficult stage, which is not only characteristic of Romania but numerous other countries in this part of Europe which are facing similar difficulties.

[Jurca] There has been speculation in the press about a military coup and the establishment of a military dictatorship in Romania. What is your opinion in this respect?

[Iliescu] This is a Latin American scenario: When the socioeconomic situation becomes complicated, the only solution is a military dictatorship. I believe that Romanian society is not prepared for such a situation. Actually, I do not think that such an adventure is being considered by anyone. I can certainly assure you that there is no such attitude within the Army. Recently I met with leaders of our Army and of several large units, as well as with leaders of regional armies in Moldavia and Transylvania. I can say that the commanders and officers seem to be responsible people with high civic and patriotic awareness who will not engage in political adventures. Therefore, I believe that such a move or scenario is not very realistic. Some people probably think along this line, but without any foundation as far as I am concerned.

[Jurca] If you were just one of the electorate, what would you consider to be the determining factor in choosing a president?

[Iliescu] The political capability of the candidate to represent balance, trust, and stability. The future president has to establish, in the near future, a framework for constant dialogue with the country's political forces in order to achieve a platform of understanding and cooperation for dealing with the difficult problems the country will face. The candidate must be a force for integrity, justice, honesty, and loyalty to the country's fundamental interests and to the interests of the broadest strata of people. We are going through difficult times. These difficulties are felt particularly by the broad masses of people who are producing and who have been the producers of material and cultural assets in this country. These difficulties will affect those people most of all. The president has to be sensitive to these questions of broad interest and he has to influence, as much as he is able, the Parliament and the executive branch to defend—in their future strategies for development—the basic interests of the broad masses of people and the national interests within the context of developing our international economic and political relations. I visualize a man who is organically, morally, and culturally linked to the country and its interests.

[Jurca] How do you explain the perseverance by some people in opposing you as president?

[Iliescu] Such is the political game, especially at a time of great tension, confrontation, and convulsion. There are probably certain reasons why such fierce attacks are directed against the president. I will not comment on them.

Iliescu Receives Arab League Secretary General

AU2306184192 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1627 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 23/6/1992—The consolidation of Romanian-Arab ties and their development by way of dialogue and cooperation in harmony with home and foreign developments were in the focus of the interview President Ion Iliescu had at Cotroceni Palace on June 23 with the secretary-general of the League of Arab States, Dr. Ismat Abd al-Megid.

The talks highlighted the way in which the Arab world with its financial and petroleum potential could contribute to turning Romania into a bridge of commercial flow between Western and Eastern countries. In the context, emphasis was placed on the way in which Romania's potential, the Danube and the Black Sea in particular, could be turned to best account.

Sarajevo Suburbs Under Attack; Poison Gas Suspected

LD2306131892 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1100 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Report from Sarajevo by correspondent Slavko Rako]

[Text] Artillery attacks on Sarajevo have been continuing for days. Their intensity diminishes occasionally for several hours. Following a massacre of civilians yesterday in the very center of the city when, according to the latest figures, shrapnel from a number of projectiles killed 19 and injured about 100 people and after an evening which was marked by deafening explosions throughout the city when 2 people were killed and 12 injured in the Stari Grad municipality, a lull set in at midnight. A lull in Sarajevo, however, implies sporadic shelling and fire from infantry weapons.

However, since early morning the Sarajevo suburbs of [words indistinct] Dobrinja and Aerodrom have been the target of terrorist artillery, of tanks and mortars. The aggressor has attempted a number of infantry attacks, which the defenders have repulsed.

As I am speaking both suburbs are being showered by lethal projectiles, which are turning residential buildings into rubble.

According to a surgeon in the Dobrinja medical center, the nature of the wounds sustained yesterday show that the aggressor is using poison gas.

News from other parts of the city is no better. Artillery shells are again hitting the areas of Stari Grad, the very center, Marindvor, Kosevsko Brdo. From Nedzarici, one of the chetnik strongholds, mortar fire is being opened on Buca Potok and Alipasino Polje. A number of private houses and apartments have been destroyed in these two districts.

Meanwhile, alarming news has come in from Zenica. The Zenica-based independent CB radio station reported that this morning aircraft of the army of aggression took off from the Banjaluka military airport and carried out an action against Turbe and near Travnik. As a result, an air alert has been in force in Zenica, Visoko, and Banovici since 0945.

The general staff of the Bosnia-Hercegovina territorial defense has warned that in recent days the aggressor has been increasingly relying on its air force both for combat and recconnaissance activity. This is yet further evidence of the involvement by the Yugoslav army in the aggression against Bosnia-Hercegovina.

'More Than 500 Ustashas' Said Killed Last 2 Days

AU2306155892 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] There is no let-up in the firing in Derventa. Last night the Croatian Army from Slavonski Brod again used howitzers and multiple rocket launchers to pound the largest barracks of Zdravko Celar in Derventa and the Serbian village of Petkovici. The Ustasha forces have been bringing multiple rocker launchers into the village of Kukavice and attacking villages way behind the lines.

Late last night Ustasha tanks from positions in Cedlici near Bijelo Brdo rolled over army positions and the village of Jovanovac. In just two days, more than 500 Ustashas have been killed on the Derventa-Doboj front.

Soldiers on the Derventa front have been calling on the Serbian people again today to give up all quarrels and rifts and join together in the struggle against fascism.

Government Joins UN Sanctions Against FRY

LD2306201392 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1856 GMT 23 Jun 92

["Pool" item]

[Text] Sarajevo, June 23 (TANJUG)—The Presidency of Bosnia-Hercegovina decided on Tuesday [23 June] for this republic to join the U.N. sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (F.R.Y.). The Presidency operates without any legally elected Serb representatives.

It said it adopted a "statutory decree on accepting the May 30 United Nations Security Council Resolution 757," severing all cooperation with the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro, which make up the F.R.Y.

Imports of all goods and products originating in Serbia and Montenegro, apart from humanitarian aid. [sentence as received]

At the same time, exports from Bosnia-Hercegovina to Serbia and Montenegro was banned, payment operations suspended and air traffic with the territory of the F.R.Y. stopped. Exceptions were made for flights with special permits.

The decree also included the production and technical cooperation and coproduction, as well as cultural and scientific exchange between Bosnia-Hercegovina and the F.R.Y.

The European Community recognized independence of Bosnia-Hercegovina on April 7 this year under pressure from the Muslim-Croat coalition, against the will of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Serbs. The Serbs are one of the three constituent peoples in Bosnia-Hercegovina and make up one-third of the republic's population. On the same day, Serbs proclaimed their own, Serbian Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, in those areas where they are the majority population. They also withdrew their representatives from all joint republican bodies and institutions.

UNPROFOR Installs Cease-Fire Equipment

LD2306135892 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1225 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 23 Jun (TANJUG)—General Lewis MacKenzie, commander of the UN Protection Force

[UNPROFOR] headquarters, today gave permission for his experts to start installing radio relays on the hills surrounding Sarajevo, Shannon Boyd deputy spokesman for UNPROFOR told TANJUG in Belgrade today .

These are technical detection devices which will make it possible to establish who is violating the cease-fire.

The go-ahead for this operation was given by the Presidency of Bosnia-Hercegovina and the Serb side with whom General MacKenzie had separate talks yesterday, Shannon Boyd stated. [passage omitted]

Red Cross To Resume Activities Except in Sarajevo

LD2306163592 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1606 GMT 23 Jun 92

["Pool" item]

[Text] Geneva, Switzerland, June 23 (TAP)—The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) decided to resume Wednesday [24 June] its activities in the five localities of Bosnia-Hercegovina, with the exception of Sarajevo because of inadequate security conditions, the humanitarian organisation in Geneva announced Tuesday.

ICRC delegates will take over their posts in the localities of Banja Luka, Bihac, Bijeljina, Grude and Trebinje where their main task will be to organise the distribution of medical and food aid to inhabitants. They will also serve as neutral mediators for prisoners.

This progressive deployment of the Red Cross is in implementation of a plan adopted on June 6 in Geneva during talks in the ICRC seat held with representatives of Muslim, Serbian and Croatian communities.

The meeting was organised after the withdrawal of the ICRC from Bosnia-Hercegovina following the death of one of its delegates who was killed in an attack on an ICRC convoy.

Serbs Appeal to UN Secretary General Over Plight

LD2306190392 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1833 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Banja Luka, 23 Jun (TANJUG)—We are addressing you on behalf of 12 dead babies, on behalf of scores of dead, sick, and wounded people, and on behalf of hundreds who will die by the time this letter reaches you, says a letter of the government of the Autonomous Region of Krajina to UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali.

"We are being brutally killed, Mr Ghali, for the third time this century," the letter stresses. "Do you know that 700,000 Orthodox Serbs were killed just in one camp called Jasenovac during the last war? Furthermore, the same enemies are doing the same thing in the same way for the same reason, just because we are Orthodox Serbs. Mr. Ghali, we are asking you to send someone to our Krajina. That person, if you wish it, would easily establish our true role and place."

The letter concludes with the following words: "We are begging you to listen to your noble heart and help the survival of 1 million desperate people, who see in you their only hope."

Serb Interior Minister Says War 'Forced' on Serbs

LD2406030692 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0150 GMT 24 Jun 92

[Text] Belgrade, June 23 (TANJUG)—Interior Minister of the Serb Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina Mico Stanisic said on Tuesday [23 June] that "no Serb in Bosnia-Hercegovina, and they account for one-third of the population, wants war, but it is forced on him," the news agency of Bosnia-Hercegovina Serbs SRNA said.

SRNA quoted Stanisic's statements to a conference for the foreign press which was held in Pale near Sarajevo. Stanisic said that Serbs would not permit anyone to dominate them and their territory.

Speaking about the presence of Croatian armed forces in war-devastated Bosnia-Hercegovina, Stanisic specified that the Croatian Army was fighting in Hercegovina and central Bosnia—in Travnik, Busovaca and Kiseljak.

Stanisic said that Serbs from Sarajevo districts under Moslems control were imprisoned and cruelly abused.

Commenting [on] the latest massacre in central Sarajevo, in which eight people were killed on Monday [22 June], Stanisic said that there were indications that this was yet another attempt to provoke and to deceive the world public.

Stanisic said that an international commission should be formed to establish exactly what happened and what kind of explosion was involved.

"Our objectives are clear: to defend our territories, and not brutally to massacre and to abuse the civilian population," Stanisic said.

Muslims Blamed for Preventing Airport Re-Opening

LD2306200692 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1937 GMT 23 Jun 92

["Pool" item]

[Text] Sarajevo, June 23 (TANJUG)—Leader of Bosnia-Hercegovina Serbs Radovan Karadzic on Tuesday [23 June] accused Moslem forces of preventing the deblocking of the airport in Sarajevo, the capital of the war-stricken former Yugoslav Republic Bosnia-Hercegovina. "Serbs in Bosnia-Hercegovina will respect everything requested of them in order that the airport reopens as soon as possible, and no problems will arise from that side. The [word indistinct] side is the problem," Karadzic told journalists after meeting with the chief of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) headquarters, Gen Lewis Mackenzie.

Karadzic and Mackenzie discussed technical details regarding the reopening of the airport behind closed doors in the presidency of the Serbian Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, in the Sarajevo suburb Pale, the Bosnia-Hercegovina Serbs' news agency SRNA reported.

Karadzic said he was satisfied with his meeting with Gen. Mackenzie and underscored the general's "impartiality" and "objective view of the situation".

Gen Mackenzie said the situation in Sarajevo was extremely grave and that UNPROFOR was largely responsible in the efforts invested to reopen the airport as soon as possible.

The UNPROFOR continues looking for a solution. It may be doing this slowly, but it is nevertheless making headway, Gen Mackenzie said.

The situation in Sarajevo is improving, but not sufficiently, because Sarajevo citizens are still massacred, Karadzic, the president of the Serbian Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, said.

Recalling the latest massacre on Monday, when 19 persons were killed and scores wounded, Karadzic said that his leadership examined all facts related to the tragedy and firmly denied its Army's involvement in it.

The Moslems are solely to blame for the constant ceasefire violations and the Army of the Serbian Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina "must return fire, because its positions are threatened", Karadzic said.

Commenting the latest accusations the Bosnia-Hercegovina Moslem-Croatian authorities voiced against the UNPROFOR, which it calls the Serbofor,—that the UNPROFOR favored the policy of Bosnia-Hercegovina Serbs more than theirs, Karadzic said that this proved Moslem leader Alija Izetbegovic's policy was unable to gain military and political advantage.

Questions on 27 May Massacre Still Unanswered

LD2306183992 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1749 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Belgrade, June 23 (TANJUG)—Hardly a month has passed since the still unexplained massacre last May in central Sarajevo, taking a toll of 16 dead and about 100 injured, the tragedy was repeated on Monday [22 June] bringing as tragic an aftermath under as dubious circumstances.

Just as during the massacre on the Vasa Miskin Street in Sarajevo on May 27, the Moslem-Croat Bosnian authorities and foreign reporters this time again readily blamed Bosnian Serbs for the death of 19 and the wounding of several scores of Sarajevans.

No one should have been taken by surprise, knowing that there have been no reactions to the Serbian side's demands for an inquiry into the May 27 crime and to its denials of guilt. Evidently, somebody wanted the real truth never to be learnt.

No one across the world was much concerned about the unusual circumstances in the May and Monday massacres when Bosnian and Croatian TV teams happened to be on the site of the crime right away, and when Moslem-Croat leaders hurried, while casualties were lying out in the streets, to call foreign correspondents to explain the [word indistinct] "Serbian crime" and the absence of traces of blasts of the allegedly Serbian shells and the directions from which they had come.

If it may be inferred that the Serbs justly assisted the May massacre had been stage-managed because Moslem leader Alija Izetbegovic needed it to undermine the Lisbon conference on Bosnia-Hercegovina, then one may equally likely presume that the latest crime had served to call off a meeting in Strasbourg next Thursday between Milosevic, Tudjman and Izetbegovic. If any dilemmas existed in this regard, it took Izetbegovic less than 24 hours since the latest crime in Sarajevo to actually cancel his trip to Strasbourg.

The [word indistinct] history of crimes over innocent civilians has repeated.

All chances are this will continue unless the international community, which easily blames the Serbs in the Bosnian war, goes into more detail of some essential facts and circumstances in which crimes repeat.

What has happened to the Serbian demands for an inquiry into the May massacre?

Asked whether the UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] in Sarajevo has opened any investigation into the May massacre, spokesman for the Belgrade-based United Nations peace-keeping forces Fred Ekhard told TANJUG that this was out of the competence of the U.N. peace- keepers. As he put it, UNPROFOR representatives were not on the site either on Monday.

The Moslem-Croat authorities in Sarajevo charged the Serbs. They would be perfectly satisfied with matters remaining as they are.

Ahmet Zilica from the office of Fikret Abdic, member of the Rump Presidency of Bosnia-Hercegovina, asserted that the Serbs on the hills overhanging Sarajevo aimed to kill as many civilians in the city as they can.

To a remark that this was not at all in the Serbs' interest, at least because of the world public, Zilic told TANJUG by telephone that 'this is in the Serbs' interest aimed at ethnic cleansing."

According to Zilic, it seems that there are no Serbs in Sarajevo any longer although they have been victims to the said crimes, too, as the Moslem-Croat authorities asserted.

Asked why an investigation had not been started, Zilic answered that everything was clear and there was nothing here to be investigated. Moreover, said he, the Bosnian authorities in the difficult days of war had other and more important chores to attend to.

This is how the tangled web of crimes is becoming endlessly unraveled. The question remains just as to when and where fresh victims will fall.

International

UNPROFOR Calls Accusations 'Irresponsible'

LD2306204292 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1836 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Belrgade, 23 Jun (TANJUG)—In a statement forwarded to TANJUG this evening, Cedric Thornberry, head of the civilian sector of the United Nations peace mission in Yugoslavia, assessed as irresponsible accusations that the UN protective forces [UNPROFOR] are to blame for tragic events in Krajina.

"I regret having to say that insinuations by public information media or by anyone else that the UNPROFOR, with its primarily humanitarian task, is a source of horrific events is the pinnacle of irresponsibility," Thornberry's statement says. "Those really looking after innocent victims of conflicts should address their pleas to those who unleashed the whip of war and who could bring peace to the people in regions which have already suffered enough," Thornberry said.

Recalling that permission for humanitarian transport is sought from the UN special committee for the application of sanctions against Yugoslavia and that the UNPROFOR must abide by UN Security Council resolutions, Thornberry says that the peace forces cannot exempt a government or an individual from sanctions, because the UN Security Council is the only body with the authority to do this.

Noting that almost a quarter of the population of Bosnia-Hercegovina is refugees and that the warring parties have driven away the majority of humanitarian organizations, the head of the UNPROFOR civilian sector says that the United Nations has done everything in is power to alleviate suffering even under these terrifying circumstances. He then went on to recall that the UN secretary general drew attention to the growing humanitarian problems in the north and south sectors. Thornberry notes that "the UNPROFOR simply does not have either the mandate or the logistics support to meet the great and hopeless humanitarian problems caused by the conflicts in Bosnia-Hercegovina and elsewhere."

Sanctions To Hinder Economy for 20 Years

LD2306133292 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1116 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Belgrade, June 23 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav economy will need 20 years to catch up with the world technology if the economic sanctions against Yugoslavia last another three months, a group of Yugoslav managers said in a public survey published on Tuesday by the BELGRADE ECONOMIC REVIEW.

The United Nations Security Council on May 30 adopted wide-ranging economic sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, i.e., its two republics of Serbia and Montenegro.

The engine manufacturer 21 Maj of Belgrade will need over eight billion dinars (around 40 million German marks) to resume with production once the blockade is lifted, if the sanctions last for another six months, said the firm's director, Aleksandar Lakovic.

Director of the Sirogojno enterprise Dobrila Smiljanic said that Yugoslavia should restore economic ties with its former republics as soon as the sanctions are lifted.

Serbia and Montenegro were exporting almost a third of their output to Slovenia and Croatia until last year, which is a lot more than what they were exporting to all 12 European Community Countries, Smiljanic said.

We must project ways to overcome the blockade, eliminate its causes, cooperate with the world and carry out economic reforms to catch up with democratic and market-oriented countries, said director of the Belgrade department store chain Luka Mackic.

The economic sanctions against Yugoslavia mean that Yugoslav producers will lose their foreign markets, and they will need a lot of time and money to win them back, said President of the Yugoslav Chamber of Commerce Branislav Vujasinovic.

Federal

Izetbegovic Said Hindering Political Solution

LD2306190592 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1815 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Belgrade, June 23 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Foreign Ministry accused on Tuesday [23 June], the extremist part of the Muslim leadership in Bosnia-Hercegovina led by Alija Izetbegovic, that by not shrinking from actions such as the massacre of civilians on Monday [22 June], they are jeopardizing all serious opportunities for the finding of a political solution to the civil war in this former multi-ethnic Yugoslav republic.

The reason for this warning to the world public, and regarding the already established method of Muslim extremists, is the latest crime in Sarajevo killing 19 and seriously injuring 65 innocent civilians, said the announcement.

It is recalled that, as in the case of previous terrorist acts (the crime in Vasa Miskin Street when 16 died and over a hundred people were injured, the attack on the United Nations Protection Forces in Yugoslavia—UNPROFOR column) this attack was carried out before the holding of an important international meeting at which the crisis in Bosnia-Hercegovina is to be resolved through political means and negotiations based on the principles of the United Nations, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the European Community (E.C.).

Such acts are obviously aimed at thwarting all peaceful efforts, and are used by the extremist part of the Muslim

leadership which believes in using solely military means for enforcing their solution to the crisis in Bosnia-Hercegovina, as can be concluded from the June 20 decision, proclaming a state of war in the republic.

The Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs underscores that it wishes to point out once again that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia's only interest in Bosnia-Hercegovina is for the setting up of a just and permanent peace based on the speedy achieving of a consensus of all three constituent nations at the Conference on Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Parties Support Milan Panic for Prime Minister

LD2406012192 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2304 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Belgrade, June 23 (TANJUG)—The Serbian Democratic Party for Serbia (SDS) believes that United States businessman Milan Panic, an ethnic Serb, should head the government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia which would include experts, and it presented this stand to Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic on Tuesday [23 June].

Following the talks, member of the SDS delegation author Radomir Smiljanic told reporters that this party believes that Panic, with his knowledge, experience and international reputation as a businessman, would contribute to the speedy reconstruction and development of the Yugoslav economy.

Panic would at the same time be a valuable aid to the Yugoslav president, the SDS believes, in overcoming problems in international relations and in the lifting of the embargo imposed by the United Nations. Panic could also help towards finding a possibility for establishing peace in war-torn Bosnia-Hercegovina, Smiljanic said.

With the Tuesday meeting with the SDS delegation, the Yugoslav president continued consultations with leaders of Yugoslav political parties and parliamentary groups.

Cosic has also invited Vuk Draskovic, the president of one of the most influential opposition parties in Serbia—the Serbian Renewal Movement (SPO)—for talks, the information service of the president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia said on Tuesday.

Draskovic, however, expressed his regret that he was unable to accept the invitation at this time, said the statement.

The SPO, the opposition party with the biggest number of deputy seats in Serbian parliament, boycotted the May elections for federal and local organs. Serbia and Montenegro are the two constituent republics of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Cosic on Tuesday received a delegation of the Reformist Democratic Party of Vojvodina (Serbia's northern province), which also urged Panic's nomination for federal prime minister.

The Yugoslav president today also received president of the Republic of Serb Krajina Goran Hadzic, at his request, TANJUG learned at the information service of the cabinet of the president.

The details of these talks have not been disclosed.

Panic Discusses Position

LD2306114892 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1014 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Jun (TANJUG)—"Legally I am not in the position yet to give President Cosic a positive answer, mainly due to the sanctions of the UN and the U.S. against Yugoslavia. This is the sole condition which still remains to be fulfilled for me to accept the nomination," Milan Panic, one of the candidates for the post of prime minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, stressed in his telephone statement last night to Belgrade Television broadcast in the last news bulletin.

"For this reason I am at the moment insisting on urgent meetings with Mr. Butrus Butrus Ghali, the UN secretary general, and with U.S. President George Bush to see if in these critical moments it is possible to make exceptions," Panic said.

The interviewer then asked: "Here in Belgrade you have been reported as having conditioned your candidature with the departure from power of individual personalities in Serbia. Tell us if this is true?"

Panic said in reply: "I highly appreciate the general support and confidence shown by all of you. This support was crucial in my considering the acceptance of the candidature for the post of president of the Federal Government of Yugoslavia."

"In these difficult circumstances I am prepared to accept the appeal of the people of Yugoslavia", Panic stressed. He added: "I have legal problems in the U.S. and am therefore not in the position to give President Cosic a positive answer because of the sanctions of the UN and the U.S. against Yugoslavia. This is the only hindrance and reason why I cannot accept the candidature immediately."

"I hope that there is understanding for my actions until this issue is resolved positively", Milan Panic said in his statement to Belgrade Television last night.

Sarajevo Radio Views FRY Political Scene

AU2406105592 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Hercegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Even though the constitutional deadline of seven days has expired, Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic has not elected the prime minister of the new state. Momir

Bulatovic and Milo Djukanovic are still official candidates, while American businessman Milan Panic is obviously still negotiating with the people from the State Department.

Vuk Draskovic, leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement, has not accepted the invitation of the academician Cosic to talks. Representatives of the democratic opposition of Serbia have returned from the president's office discontented. Radio B-92 has learned unofficially that Cosic told the representatives of DEPOS [Democratic Movement of Serbia] that the military situation is catastrophic, that an inflationary chaos is awaiting us, and that we do not know what to do. Elections in Serbia will only take place after U.S. elections. Further on, insisting on Milosevic's resignation would mean unrest in Serbia and Cosic has no constitutional powers to influence them. Dobrica Cosic, as he put it, knows many things that DEPOS representatives must by no means learn. During the talks, Cosic was called to the telephone. He was out of the room for 15 minutes, after which he came back.

What DEPOS would officially say about talks with Cosic could be heard today at separate news conferences for foreign and domestic journalists. After the talks DEPOS is of the opinion that expectations have not been fulfilled. Cosic is not ready for the necessary radical changes, he says, and adds that (?Cosic) has placed all his hopes in the federal government which, as is clear today, he cannot put together. Cosic will advocate [words indistinct], including those for president of the republic, be held by the end of the year. The president failed to reply to the question of whether Serbia can withstand the sanctions until the end of the year. According to Cosic, Milosevic's resignation would divide Serbia, while DEPOS is of the opinion that this act would make the political situation in Serbia healthier.

Belgrade students have been on strike for nine days and are not giving up their demands. Serbian Assembly deputies are not on strike, but even after 23 days of blockade, they have no solution for how to survive it. Socialists agree to a government reshuffle but would not drop its chairman Radoman Bozovic. The opposition is offering socialists two-thirds of government portfolios under the condition that Chairman Bozovic resigns.

Belgrade is waiting with uncertainty for 28 June, when large-scale demonstrations against the regime are planned. As that week approaches, threats to students are increasing. The most vociferous threats are by Seselj's chetniks and some other of his advocates. Condemnations of students are accumulating from Bosnia-Hercegovina as well. The latest to speak up have been some volunteers from Kupres who reproach students that, as they put it, they do not care about their brothers suffering, but (?their models) are Washington, Vienna, Bonn, Zagreb, and so on.

Unfortunately, only Belgrade citizens could see a film by the Bosnia-Hercegovina Television, Sarajevo, the City Which Is No More, late last night, thanks to the independent Studio B Television. These were eye-witness accounts of the destruction of Bosnian towns, which Belgrade Television has been keeping secret from the citizens of Serbia for more than 60 days. Mostly archive shots of towns are shown. The horrifying deaths of people in the streets of Sarajevo yesterday do not leave anybody indifferent and even here, few people believe the unbelievable statement by Serbian leaders from Bosnia that they have absolutely nothing to do with it.

There is almost no evening in Belgrade without a shot being fired or a hand grenade hurled. One of them was thrown into the house of Olga Gavran, student and activist of the Student [word indistinct] 92.

It seems to us that Belgrade very much resembles Sarajevo immediately before the war. Fear and discontent, poverty and misery are increasing. Belgrade streets are no longer safe or calm. Citizens are divided into the loyal and the traitors.

DEPOS Holds News Conference on Cosic Talks

AU2306180992 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Representatives of the Democratic Movement of Serbia [DEPOS] held a news conference in the building of the Serbian Writers Association. The reason was a visit by a DEPOS delegation and talks they held with Yugoslav President Dobrica Cosic. In this connection, the Depos Council has concluded that their expectations remain unfulfilled. This was said by DEPOS spokesman Vladeta Jankovic. Vladimir Nikolic has a report on the news conference.

[Begin Nikolic recording] Jankovic briefly summarized the talks with President Cosic. We first explained to him why we do not recognize his legitimacy, Jankovic said and added that DEPOS does not recognize the elections, and therefore it does not recognize the newly established organs and their representatives, either. This is why we addressed Cosic as Mr. and not President. According to Jankovic, Cosic replied that they have a full legal and democratic right to do this but that perhaps they did not have a moral right to do so.

Otherwise, the three main issues about which we wanted to hear Cosic's opinion were: the resignation of President Milosevic, the roundtable and elections for a constituent assembly, and the issue of state television, Jankovic said. We called on Cosic to use his personal authority where he did not have any powers, Jankovic stressed.

Regarding the Constitution, Cosic told us that the Constitution can be changed through amendments and not through the constituent assembly that we have been calling for. His stand is for elections to be held at all levels and even for the president of the Republic of Serbia by the end of the year. Cosic otherwise favored a roundtable, but when it came to the television, he did not

agree with us that official television is malicious and warmongering, Jankovic stressed.

The DEPOS spokesman informed reporters that a St. Vitus Day Gathering of Democratic Serbia would be held on the plateau in front of the Federal Assembly building at 1200 [1000 GMT] on 28 June. Apart from the opposition parties, representatives of the Serbian Orthodox Church, the Serbian Academy of Science and Arts, universities, independent trade unions, peasants, and workers will be present. The stand has been taken that the participants themselves will decide on how long the gathering will last. Otherwise, it is envisaged that this will be a peaceful and nonviolent but mass meeting of support for changes which, in the words of Jankovic, are essential.

It is certain that Prince Aleksandar will be in Belgrade that day, but he himself will decide whether he will take part in the gathering, Jankovic said in conclusion. [end recording]

Serbia

Assembly To Take No Confidence Vote in Government

LD2306115292 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Jun (TANJUG)—The Serbian Assembly today accepted the proposal put forward by 30 deputies from various political parties to include in the agenda the initiative for a vote of no confidence in the republican government. A group of deputies demanded discussion on the motion of no confidence in the government "because of the sanctions and other consequences of inadequate activities in the sphere of foreign and internal policy." The initiative is then justified in terms of the government's ill-timed and poor foreign political activities. The deputies blame the government because "in Serbia there has been no economic and monetary changes or changes in the nature of ownership, which could have eased or prevented the consequences of the economic blockade and other sanctions imposed by the Security Council." According to the rules of procedure, the parliament should vote on this initiative within at least three days after its proposal.

Kosovo

Police Raid Independent Trade Union Offices

AU2306200992 Tirana ATA in English 1814 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Tirana, June 23 (ATA)—As Belul Jashari, ATA co-worker in Pristina, reports on June 22 at midnight, Serb militia broke in the surroundings of Kosovo Independent Trade Unions offices and broke all the equipments of offices, whereas the material of trade unions activity after the control was confiscated. Police blocked these surroundings all day long on June 23. The Human Rights and Freedoms Defence Council reports that praying in all the Pristina mosques is hindered. Many working people of medrese [Islamic seminary] have been arrested whereas its edifice is encircled by armoured vehicles and tanks. As reported from the cities and localities of Kosovo, despite provocations and repression of Serb police, there were no incidents or conflicts .

Reports from Rahovec [Orahovac] disclose that Serb police arrested on June 23 five deputies of the parliament of the Kosovo Republic from Prizren. Serbia's security organs sent them to the surroundings of the Ministry of the Interior and they are expected to be brought to the Communal Court under the false charge for misdemeanors.

Macedonia

President Gligorov Calls for EEC Recognition

PM2306111292 Paris LE MONDE in French 20 Jun 92 p 3

["Y.H." report: "Macedonian President Argues For Recognition of His Republic"]

[Text] The EEC's failure to recognize the former Yugoslav republic of Madeconia "carries very great dangers and very great threats" for the region: This is the message which Macedonian President Kiro Gligorov delivered to Roland Dumas during a brief visit to Paris on Thursday 18 June.

The foreign minister replied by immediately urging his interlocutor to find a compromise in the crisis between Skopje and Athens on the name of the Republic of Macedonia—a crisis which is blocking any recognition of the latter by the Twelve.

Indeed, Greece opposes Macedonia being recognized under that name which it regards as an exclusive part of the Greek heritage. Mr. Gligorov regards this position as "irrational," ultimately asking whether recognition, in Europe's eyes, can only be obtained by war. "Greece can call Macedonia what it wishes," but, for the international community, is can only be Macedonia, President Gligorov insisted, stressing that there was no question of his country abandoning that name.

Reaffirming that "the legal and diplomatic conditions for recognition (of Macedonia—LE MONDE editor's note) had been established," Mr. Dumas told his interlocutor that France did not plan to depart from the rule of unanimity in the Twelve's decision-making process, suggesting that Macedonia could only be recognized after a compromise is found with Athens.

He also urged the establishment of direct contacts between the two sides. Mr. Gligorov did not ask France to mediate. However, Mr. Dumas said that Paris was prepared to "help find a solution" to the crisis "within the framework of the Twelve."